

## **Readiness to Counsel Patients About Medical Devices and the Source of Information Among Community Pharmacists**

This study is supervised by Dr Ahmed Ibrahim Fathelrahman from College of Pharmacy Taif University. The study is evaluating readiness among community pharmacists in Saudi Arabia to counsel patients about medical devices and their source of information in this area. The findings of the study will be useful for improving pharmacists' contribution to such area of practice. Participation in the study is voluntary and data will be analysed anonymously without providing hints about identity of the participants. You will not be asked to indicate your name or pharmacy. We appreciate your full cooperation and completing the whole survey carefully.

I have been informed about the purpose of this study and I am voluntary willing to participate in the survey.

Agree

Do not agree

Note: You cannot move to a new question unless you complete answering all items in the question in your hand

Part1: Demographic Characteristics (used in Google Forms as drop-down menu)

**1. Age:**

< 25 years

25-34 years

35-44 years

45-54 years

55-64 years

≥65 years

**2. Gender:**

Male

Female

**3. Nationality:**

Saudi

Non-Saudi

**4. What is your highest qualification?**

Diploma

Bachelor

Pharm.D

Master

PhD

**5. When did you obtain your highest qualification?**

< 2 years

2-5 years

6-9 years

≥10 years

**6.** How many years of experience do you have in community pharmacy?

< 2 years

2-5 years

6-9 years

≥10 years

**7.** Where is your work located?

City

Village

**8.** What type of community pharmacy do you work in?

Independent pharmacy

Chain pharmacy

**9.** Have you got any board-certified qualification?

Yes

No

**10.** Have you received a clinical training?

Yes

No

**11.** In which region of Saudi Arabia do you work?

Al Bahah

Asir

Al Jawf

Jizan

Al Madinah

Tabuk

Al Qaşim

Najran

Al Riyadh

Makkah

Ash Sharqiyah

Hā'il

Al Hudud ash Shamaliyah

Part two:

1. How frequently you use the following sources of information about medical devices?

Please rank all items by selecting a response from never to always

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	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Pharmaceutical companies' information enclosed with devices package					
Book, booklets, posters and brochures prepared by pharmaceutical companies					
Pharmaceutical companies' representatives					
Pharmaceutical companies' official Websites					
Consumers/ patient oriented non-commercial websites					
Regulatory authorities' official websites					
Pharmacy colleagues' others than companies' representatives					
Medical doctors					
Workshops or conferences					
Mobile Applications					
Other sources (please specify:					

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2. In general, what types of medical devices do you come across during your practice?

Please select all possible answers (each with No or Yes possible answers).

- Devices related to endocrinology
- Devices related to cardiology
- Devices related to pulmonary system
- Devices related to gastroenterology
- Devices related to nephrology
- Devices related to urology
- Devices related to oncology
- Devices related to surgery
- Devices related to orthopaedic
- Devices related to neurology
- Devices related to psychiatry
- Devices related to ophthalmology

3. Among the following: which medical devices do/did you use personally to treat self-medical conditions? Please select all possible answers (each with No or Yes possible answers).

- Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs)
- Spacers
- Dry powder inhalers
- Nebulizers
- Accuhalers/ Diskus
- Turbuhalers
- Blood pressure monitors
- Heart rate monitors
- Blood glucose monitors
- Insulin pens
- Pens other than insulin
- Implanted devices
- Weighing scales
- Syringes
- Stethoscope
- Thermometers

- Testing kits
- First aid equipment
- Meters
- Respirometer

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree about the need for the following?

Statement	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Pharmacy colleges should offer pharmacy students a course on medical devices					
Pharmacy colleges should offer pharmacy students special training on medical devices					
There should be special training on medical devices provided to practicing pharmacists as a continuing professional development activity					
There is a need for specialized reference on medical devices for pharmacists					

5. Personally, are you interested in receiving special training on medical devices

- Not at all
- Yes, but not at present time
- Yes as soon as possible

6. If your answer to question 5 was “not at all”, why?

- Too old to receive such training
- Employer will not agree
- No time to join a training
- No need because already aware
- Not interested

7. Among the following: which medical conditions commonly represent patients enquires about devices? Please select an answer for all conditions

	Never 1	Rarely 2	Sometimes 3	Often 4	Always 5
Diabetes					
Hypertension					
Bronchial Asthma					
Bone and joints conditions					
Pain management					
Anticoagulation therapy					

8. Among the following: which medical devices represent patients' common enquiries? Please select an answer for all devices

	Never 1	Rarely 2	Sometimes 3	Often 4	Always 5
Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs)					
Spacers					
Nebulizers					
Accuhalers/ Diskus					
Turbuhalers					
Dry powder inhalers					
Blood pressure monitors					
Heart rate monitors					
Blood glucose monitors					
Insulin pens					
Pens other than insulin					
Implanted devices					
Weighing scales					
Syringes					
Stethoscope					
Thermometers					
Testing kits					

First aid equipment

Measuring meters

Respirometer

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9. To what extent do you know how to use/ deal with the following devices appropriately?

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Not at all    Poor    Average    Good    Excellent

1            2            3            4            5

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Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs)

Spacers

Nebulizers

Accuhalers/ Diskus

Turbuhalers

Dry powder inhalers

Blood pressure monitors

Heart rate monitors

Blood glucose monitors

Insulin pens

Pens other than insulin

Implanted devices

Weighing scales

Syringes

Stethoscope

Thermometers

Testing kits

First aid equipment

Measuring meters

Respirometer

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10. To what extent you are confident to counsel your patients about the following devices?

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	Not confident at all	Not confident	Average 3	Confident 4	Very confident 5
Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs)					
Spacers					
Nebulizers					
Accuhalers/ Diskus					
Turbuhalers					
Dry powder inhalers					
Blood pressure monitors					
Heart rate monitors					
Blood glucose monitors					
Insulin pens					
Pens other than insulin					
Implanted devices					
Weighing scales					
Syringes					
Stethoscope					
Thermometers					
Testing kits					
First aid equipment					
Measuring meters					
Respirometer					

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11. To what extent do you normally counsel your patients about the following devices?

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	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
	1	2	3	4	5
Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs)					
Spacers					
Nebulizers					
Accuhalers/ Diskus					
Turbuhalers					
Dry powder inhalers					
Blood pressure monitors					
Heart rate monitors					
Blood glucose monitors					
Insulin pens					
Pens other than insulin					
Implanted devices					
Weighing scales					
Syringes					
Stethoscope					
Thermometers					
Testing kits					
First aid equipment					
Measuring meters					
Respirometer					

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12. To what extent do you normally supply the following devices to your patients with or without counselling?

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	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
	1	2	3	4	5
Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs)					
Spacers					
Nebulizers					
Accuhalers/ Diskus					
Turbuhalers					
Dry powder inhalers					
Blood pressure monitors					
Heart rate monitors					
Blood glucose monitors					
Insulin pens					
Pens other than insulin					
Implanted devices					
Weighing scales					
Syringes					
Stethoscope					
Thermometers					
Testing kits					
First aid equipment					
Measuring meters					
Respirometer					

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13. What are the barriers to counsel patients about medical devices?

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	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
	1	2	3	4	5
Lack of knowledge					
Lack of competence and skills					
Lack of confidence					
Shortage in number of pharmacists					
Workload in pharmacy					
Time					
Customers/ patients will not be interested					
Customers/ patients do not trust pharmacists					
Non-supportive policies					
Employers will not allow					
No financial gain / No one would like to pay for the service					

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Thank You for Your Time