

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**DRUG-RELATED PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED BY PATIENTS IN A
PSYCHIATRY MEDICATION THERAPY ADHERENCE CLINIC**

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ABSTRACT

Drug-related problems (DRPs) are most common issues among patients in ambulatory settings. The aim of this study is to explore the DRPs experienced by patients in a Psychiatry Medication Therapy Adherence Clinic (PMTAC). A total of 70 subjects included in the present study. Data was collected retrospectively by reviewing the MTAC document. Out of 70 subjects, a total of 82 DRPs were identified. The DRPs were classified based on Pharmaceutical Care Network Europe (PCNE) classification. Untreated indication reported as the most prevalent DRPs 45 (55%) followed by adverse drug event (non-allergic) 25 (31%) and no effect of drug treatment or therapy failure which 6 (7%). These major causes of the DRPs were drug not taken or administered 32 (38%) followed by patient forgets to use or take the drug 15 (18%). Nine (11 %) patients unable to use drug as directed. In addition, when the DRPs were identified, pharmacist plays their important role for intervention to overcome the problem. Sixty six (43%) were intervention made for the patient (medication) counseling. Other intervention performed by pharmacist includes access on patient's adherence, access on side effects of medication, educate on the use of pillboxes. It is contributed about 63 (41%). Sixty two (76%) of the identified DRPs was partially solved, followed by the outcome is not known 12 (15%) and problem are totally solved 5 (6%). The PMTAC service run by pharmacist plays a vital in identifying and managing DRPs among patients.

Keywords: drug-related problems; intervention; medication therapy adherence clinic, modified morisky adherence scale

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

The occurrence of drug-related problems (DRPs) could prevent or delay patients from achieving the desired therapeutic outcomes. Drug-related problems are actually significant challenge to health care providers (HCPs) and may affect the morbidity, mortality as well as quality of life (QoL) of patient.

Antipsychotic medications are effective in treating mental illness problems. Besides, taking antipsychotic medication as prescribed also one of the best means by patients in order to manage the psychotic symptoms and preventing relapse. However, there are various reasons that patients discontinue their medication or skip doses, either occasionally or frequently (Perkins, 1999).

Non-adherence to medication is particularly common DRP in the treatment and management of psychotic disorder. Patient adherence to medication eventually affects the therapeutic goals of a patient derived from that particular medication (Gonzalez *et al.*, 2005 ; Alene *et al.*, 2012). Several studies have shown that between 55% and 60% of patients do not take antipsychotic medication as