UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

PERCEPTION AND KNOWLEDGE OF PHARMACY STUDENTS ON CONCEPT OF PHARMACEUTICAL CARE

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TABLE OF CONTENT

TITLE PAGE	Page
APPROVAL FORM	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
ABSTRACT	x
CHAPTER ONE (INTRODUCTION)	1
1.1 Objectives	3
1.2 Significance	3
1.3 Hypothesis	3
CHAPTER TWO (LITERATURE REVIEW)	
2.1 Pharmaceutical care	4
2.1.1 Definition and concept of pharmaceutical care	4
2.1.2 The significance of pharmaceutical care	5
2.2 Pharmaceutical care process	6
2.2.1 Assess the patient's drug therapy need and identify	6
actual and potential drug therapy problems	
2.2.2 Develop a care plan to resolve and/ or prevent drug	6

ABSTRACT

The gradual transition in the professional responsibilities of the pharmacist from a traditional task to a more patient-centered care had been commercialized as a practice philosophy that represents all the services responsibly provided by pharmacists to patient in medication related therapy to achieve definite outcomes and improves patients' quality of life. This study was conducted to assess the knowledge and perception of the graduating year pharmacy students towards the concept of pharmaceutical care.

Method: The modified questionnaires were distributed to the fourth year pharmacy students with total of 101 respondents. The questionnaires consist of three parts to determine the level of knowledge of pharmacy student towards pharmaceutical care

Results: The findings of this study shows there are several significance differences where most of the students that enter B.Pharm program because of other reasons which are to obtain a high academic achievement, they want a steady job that will provide a good job opportunity, and because of their own interest to become pharmacist obtained the higher perception score. Besides, high percentage of students from Diploma in Pharmacy obtained 'excellent' and 'good' score

Conclusion: Pharmacy students at Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) had a positive perception towards the concept of pharmaceutical care. The education, training activity and syllabus provided may encourage the development of future pharmacists who are motivated and well-prepared to practice and incorporated into the concept of pharmaceutical care into the real clinical setting in future.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

The worldwide significant changes in health care systems with respect to their quality and processes had been specifically demonstrated in practice of pharmacy. The practice in pharmacy shifts from drug product-oriented to patient-oriented. The traditional role of pharmacist involving the preparation, dispensing, and selling of medications had been shifted to the new approach that is known as pharmaceutical care (Tumkur et al., 2012). This new approach of pharmaceutical care is "the responsible provision of drug therapy to obtain definite outcomes that will also improves the quality of life of patient" (Hepler & Strand, 1990). The concept gives the new ideas about how to manage the patient's drug related needs and has since then encouraged pharmacist to develop the pharmaceutical profession (Bjorkman et al., 2008). The basis of pharmaceutical care is the relationship between the patient and the health-care providers who responsible to provide care to the patients and it involves the active participation of both patient and health care provider in process of drug therapy decisions (Al-Quteimat & Amer, 2014). However, there are variety of ways to practice pharmaceutical care that had been developed since the meaning had been understood differently for all practitioners all over the world (Bjorkman et al., 2008). To achieve the purpose of pharmaceutical care, pharmacists need to cooperate with patients and other healthcare providers in designing, implementing, and monitoring a care plan (Lyra et al., 2007). There are barriers in the implementation of pharmaceutical care. For example, deficient clinical knowledge and