

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**HEALTH PROFESSIONAL (PHARMACIST,
NURSE AND PHYSICIAN) AWARENESS OF
DRUG COST: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**

NURWAHIDAH BINTI ASAT

**Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons.)**

Faculty of Pharmacy

July 2017

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah, praise to Allah s.w.t The Almighty who has made all things possible. In the name of Allah S.W.T. with His Generous and His Faithful, thanks to God because of His Bless our business plan has been finished as well as being planned. This research will not succeed without encouragement, guideline, advice and operation from many sides.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and extend my heartfelt gratitude to Dr Muhamad Faiz bin Othman, who is my supervisor as well as Dr Long Chiau Ming and Dr Lee Kah Seng who are my co-supervisors for this research. Not forget our coordinator for PHC57, Dr Gurmet Kaur A/P Surindar Singh and all lecturers of Faculty Pharmacy UiTM Puncak Alam. Thank you for helping and giving vital encouragement, support and understanding in conducting this research. I also would like to thank with my highly appreciation and millions of thanks to them whose either directly or indirectly have taking part while I am conducting this research. Also not forget to my fellow friends, who always give me spirit in order to complete this research on the certain time.

Lastly, all the experience I have gain in completing this research will become a valuable tool that I can use in future.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
TITLE PAGE	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
LIST OF TABLES	v
LIST OF FIGURES	vi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	vii
ABSTRACT	viii
 CHAPTER ONE (INTRODUCTION)	
1.1 Background of study	1
1.2 Problem statement	6
1.3 Objectives	6
1.4 Significance of study	7
 CHAPTER TWO (LITERATURE REVIEW)	
2.1 Perception of relevant prescription drug cost	8
2.2 Lack of knowledge of cost	9
 CHAPTER THREE (METHOD)	
3.1 Search Strategy	11
3.2 Criteria for Inclusion	13

ABSTRACT

Background

Globally, pharmaceutical costs are highly variable and therefore obtaining accurate and relevant costs are often very complex as plenty of similar medicines or health supplements with similar efficacy, safety and therapeutic effects being priced differently. The healthcare professionals (physician, nurse and pharmacist) have their role in alleviating patient's financial burden by being more aware of the medicine cost that they prescribe. However, there is no consistent pattern in awareness among health professional. We designed this systematic review to review health professionals (pharmacist, nurse, and physician) level of awareness regarding cost of prescription drug products as well as to identify factors influencing awareness of the drug cost.

Methods and Findings

Databases that we used for our search strategy included Pubmed, MEDLINE, Scopus and Science Direct as well as reference review for any articles which related to the topics. Articles for inclusion included; those that described the awareness, understanding, concerns, perceptions or knowledge of the health professional, pharmacists, nurses or physicians towards the drug cost or medication prices; results should be described quantitatively; have a description of how "True" costs determined and must have minimum of 10 participants of respondent either health professionals or physicians or nurses or pharmacists. Two authors reviewed

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Growth in health-care expenditure is a major concern for any governments. The growth usually associated to the rising pharmaceutical costs, new medicines and growth in the number of medicine dispensed. The U.S. healthcare system spent approximately \$3.2 trillion in 2015 or almost \$10,000 for every person whilst the economists also reaffirmed the prediction that national health spending will grow by 5.8% each year on average over the next decade (Bob, 2016). Aside from ensuring fair price of medicine, the government and health-care organizations also responsible in ensuring safe, effective and high quality medication for public use.

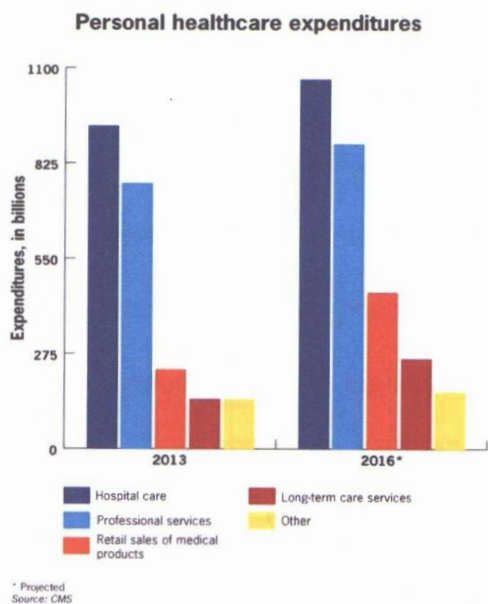


Figure 1.1: Personal healthcare expenditures. Adapted from article of <http://www.modernhealthcare.com>