

**“THE PATTERNS OF ANTIDEPRESSANT DRUG
PRESCRIBING:
A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY”**



**DIPLOMA IN PHARMACY IN THE
FACULTY OF PHARMACY,
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
PULAU PINANG**

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MARCH 2016

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Submitted in partial fulfillment for the Degree of Diploma In Pharmacy of
Faculty of Pharmacy,
Universiti Teknologi MARA
Pulau Pinang

March, 2016

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, many people have been stressed in their life due to various challenges in their life to keep living. This study shows how many people have been prescribed antidepressants by their doctors. Our study was done at Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (HUSM) Kubang Kerian, Kelantan which is one of the major hospitals in Kelantan. Our studies subjects were the visitors who come to the Out-patient Pharmacy Department (OPD) from May 2015 to June 2015. We get all data from HUSM's system itself with the authorisation from our supervisor. This data is collected according to the antidepressants that have been prescribed. The focus on this study is to relate their demographic factors which are ages, gender and races. From the data we manage to get, it shows that Escitalopram is the most commonly prescribed by the doctor as it compromising 32.2% of the total prescriptions. This was followed by Amitriptyline (22.5%) and Fluvoxamine (10.6%). In total, Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRIs) formed 25.4% of all the prescriptions. Tricyclic antidepressants formed 23.9% of total prescription with Amitriptyline being the most commonly used tricyclic antidepressants. The other antidepressants were prescribed to 17.5% of the patients. There are only 3.2% of patients were prescribed more than one antidepressant. All in all, Escitalopram is the commonly prescribed antidepressants and SSRIs are most commonly prescribed class of antidepressants. Poly pharmacy in the form of concomitant use of two or more antidepressants is rarely practiced.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In performing our research as our final project to complete Diploma in Pharmacy course at UITM Pulau Pinang, we had to take the help and guideline of some respected persons, who deserve our greatest gratitude. The completion of this research gives us much pleasure.

Thousand thanks to Department of Pharmacy Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (HUSM) Kubang Kerian for giving us much information, providing us with good environment and facilities to commence on this research.

We would like to show our gratitude to our supervisor, Mr. Mohd Sabrie bin Mohd Nawawi. His thoughts and ideas as well as experiences and guidances have helped us a lot in doing this research. Much thanks to our lecturers, Madam Che Noriah Othman, Madam Roz Azinur and other lecturers of Faculty of Pharmacy in Pulau Pinang for their advices and comments about our research.

Besides, our deepest thanks to all pharmacists and assistant pharmacists in HUSM Kubang Kerian who have helped us a lot.

Lastly, we would also like to expand our warmest gratitude to all those who have directly and indirectly guided us in writing this report.

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