

Background and Objectives:

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a type of dementia that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior. Symptoms usually develop slowly and get worse over time, becoming severe enough to interfere with daily tasks. The primary objective in the study is to assess the knowledge of practicing Palestinian pharmacists on AD including pharmacotherapeutic issues regarding AD.

Methods:

A descriptive cross sectional study design was employed. The data collection form was distributed in the West Bank among 297 community pharmacists. It comprised of 2 sections: demographic factors of participant pharmacists section and knowledge section. The knowledge section was based on a validated tool based on Alzheimer's disease knowledge Scale (ADKS). The collected data from the returned questionnaire were coded and entered into the Statistical Package for Social Sciences program (SPSS) version 16.

Results:

A total of 297 community pharmacists were surveyed. Out of the 297, 152(51.2%) of the participants were females and the rest were male. About 43.8% of the participants were between 23-29 years old. The average knowledge score of the participant pharmacists about AD was 15.7 out of 30 (52.3%) with a median of 15 (inter quartile range: 13.00 -18.00). Most of the Socio-demographic characteristics among participant pharmacists have not showed significant differences on knowledge score. However, significant differences were perceived among different age groups in which older participants scored lower knowledge.

Key Words:

Alzheimer's , Pharmacists, Knowledge, Palestine.