Aim and objectives The aim of the study was to examine PMS behaviours among adults living in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).

Material and methods This was a cross sectional survey study. The eligibility criteria were an ability to communicate in Arabic or English and age ≥ 18 years. An online survey (Gascoyne's questionnaire)¹ was distributed during December 2018 to a convenient sample of 760 participants by the university email network and social media via an internet link leading to a web based survey platform in QuestionPro. Emails and WhatsApp messages were sent by the researcher to her contacts and professional colleagues working in different sectors across KSA. They were encouraged to post the online survey on relevant social media forums using their personal accounts (ie, Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp). Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) 22 was used for data analysis. Ethics approval was obtained from Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University.

Results Twenty per cent of participants revealed they would borrow a prescription medication and 32% would lend a prescription medication. The prevalence of borrowing and lending prescription medications were found to be 14% and 16% in 2018 (past year), respectively. Twenty per cent of participants revealed that they had given a medication prescribed for one child to another child in their care, and 75% reported having leftover prescription medicine at home. The majority (90%) had borrowed or lent on 1–3 occasions. A wide range of medications were borrowed and lent, mainly between immediate family members. Different reasons have been identified for medicine borrowing or lending behaviours, such running out of medicines, having the same medical problem and being in an emergency situation.

Conclusion and relevance The findings are consistent with the literature which support the need for further research into the development of successful approaches or interventions to reduce medication sharing behaviour.¹

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No conflict of interest.

5PSQ-077 PERCEPTIONS ABOUT PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION SHARING AMONG ADULTS IN SAUDI ARABIA: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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Background and importance Prescription medication sharing (PMS) among patients and their family members and friends is a common practice that can lead to serious health risks.¹ However, very little research has investigated PMS from the general public's perspective.¹

Aim and objectives The aim of the study was to examine the general public's attitudes towards, and experiences of, PMS in Saudi Arabia.

Material and methods Qualitative interviews were carried out using Beyene's questionnaire¹ in the Eastern Province of

Saudi Arabia, with 60 Saudi participants, selected via a snowball sampling strategy. Researchers of this study recommended potential participants from their relatives and friends, who met the inclusion criteria, to take part in the study. Those participants then recommended additional participants who met the inclusion criteria for possible study enrolment. Once referred, the researchers then contacted potential participants to explain the study and assess their interest and eligibility. Interviews were conducted either on the telephone or face to face, at a mutually agreeable time and place from November 2018 to April 2019. The eligibility criteria comprised the ability to communicate in Arabic or English, age ≥ 18 years and taking a prescribed medication. Interviews were conducted as needed until data saturation was achieved. Interviews were audio recorded, transcribed verbatim and analysed thematically using NVivo 10 software. Ethics approval was obtained from Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University.

Results Sixty individuals took part in the interviews. The majority of participants were women (75%) and aged 18–24 (48%) years. Five overarching themes were identified in this study: types of shared medications, perceived advantages of sharing medicines, negative experience of sharing medicines, factors influencing medicine sharing practices and diverse approaches used by participants to help them evaluate whether the sharing was risky or not. An exploration of these overarching themes demonstrated many similarities in line with evidence from the international literature, although some differences were also identified which may appear to be specific to the Saudi population.

Conclusion and relevance The findings of this study can be used to inform the development of successful interventions to reduce PMS behaviour.

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5PSQ-078 HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS' PERCEPTIONS OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION SHARING AMONG ADULTS IN SAUDI ARABIA: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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Background and importance Prescription medications can have serious negative health outcomes when they are misused or abused, such as when they are shared.¹ Very little research has investigated healthcare providers' perceptions of prescription medication sharing (PMS) among adults.¹

Aim and objectives The aim of the study was to examine healthcare providers' (HCP) attitudes towards, and experiences of, PMS among adults.

Material and methods Qualitative interviews were carried out using Beyene's questionnaire¹ in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia, with 31 HCPs, selected via snowball sampling. Researchers of this study recommended potential participants from their relatives and friends, who met the inclusion