experience of stopping medications and 13 patients (18%) were able to proceed without the deprescribed medication. When asked about follow-up on deprescribing, 60 patients (83%) preferred face-to-face consultations.

Conclusion and relevance In conclusion, our results highlight a great potential of applying a patient centred approach to deprescribing of medication among polymedicated multimorbidity patients in multidisciplinary outpatient clinics.

REFERENCES AND/OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Conflict of interest No conflict of interest

AN EVALUATION OF HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION KNOWLEDGE IN PATIENTS ATTENDING A HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT PHARMACY

Background and importance The importance of health promotion and disease prevention among the general public has been reinforced following the COVID-19 pandemic. Although national campaigns have been active for years, reports have highlighted the opportunities for the greater use of pharmacy teams for improving this, in light of their location, accessibility, convenience and relationship with the public.

Aim and objectives To assess the level of knowledge on important health topics of patients and learn their preferences for future learning in order to develop a targeted and effective health promotion programme.

Material and methods In July 2019, patients waiting for a prescription to be filled in a hospital outpatient pharmacy were approached for inclusion in the study. Those who consented were interviewed via a confidential questionnaire (revised following a pilot on 5 patients) until 100 patients were recruited. The results were submitted into Excel for analysis.

Results The participation rate was approximately 30% (47% men and 53% women, aged 18–70 years). Approximately 10% of patients were unaware of the risks of high blood pressure and 28% had never had their blood pressure monitored. 28% did not know the maximum recommended units of alcohol permitted per week. All smokers (28%) had been unsuccessful in previous attempts to stop smoking. Although all patients were aware of the correct signs of breast cancer, 17% of patients were unsure of the signs of prostate cancer. 40% of patients were unable to give two correct symptoms of depression and some patients mentioned inaccurate ones. Although over 75% of patients preferred to receive health promotion information via a one-to-one consultation with pharmacy staff, 74% of patients thought watching health promotion videos while waiting for a prescription was a good idea. All patients had access to a mobile phone or a computer and were happy to receive information via their electronic devices.

Conclusion and relevance The study highlighted gaps in knowledge, particularly in the areas of alcohol intake, depression and prostate cancer, giving ideas of where to target future health promotion campaigns. Although patients prefer personal consultations with pharmacy staff, novel ways of delivering health promotion, including the use of phones and electronic devices, should be considered.

REFERENCES AND/OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Conflict of interest No conflict of interest

DEPREScribing TOOLS FOR THE ELDERLY: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Background and importance Deprescription is the revision of the therapeutic plan with the aim of simplifying it, taking into account the preferences of the patient, prognosis and the environment. This strategy acquires special relevance in elderly patients as they are exposed to numerous adverse effects and interactions.

Aim and objectives To identify the deprescribing tools (DT) aimed at elderly patients available in the scientific literature and their main characteristics.

Material and methods A systematic search was conducted in PubMed and EMBASE for relevant literature published up to April 2020, applying the PRISMA method. The search strategy included terms for deprescribing, study population (aged OR elderly) and deprescribing strategies (tool OR process OR criteria OR algorithm). Inclusion criteria were: observational/experimental studies which created or developed a DT in elderly patients. Exclusion criteria were: studies where the DT was aimed at a specific medication, pharmacological group or pathology. Tools identified were analysed according to whether they were criterion/algorith type.

Results 13/485 papers met the inclusion criteria, and 11 tools were identified: 5 ‘algorithm based tools’ and 6 ‘criterion based tools’ (2 of the articles developed the validation of 2 criterion based tools). All tools were aimed at elderly patients, with peculiarities regarding their design, population, setting of application and items that formed the tool.

Algorithm based tools

- The methodology used for its development was not specified.
- Population: two of them focused specifically on patients with limited life expectancy.
- Settings of application: two algorithms were applied to institutionalised patients, one to hospitalised patients and the remaining two did not specify the scenario.

Criterion based tools

- Five used the Delphi method for their design and development.
- Population: one was focused on patients with multimorbidity or similar characteristics and two were aimed at patients with limited life expectancy.
- Settings of application: three tools were aimed at institutionalised patients, two other tools were aimed at all healthcare settings and the other one to outpatients.

It is important to emphasise that most of the tools agreed on the pharmacological groups that were likely to be deprescribed (statins, antipsychotics, proton pump inhibitors and antidepressants).

Conclusion and relevance Knowing and being able to use DT aimed at hospitalised or multimorbidity patients could be very useful for hospital pharmacists, allowing them to carry out this activity as part of their healthcare activity.