

MASTER OF SCIENCE (PHARMACY)

Integrated Quality Systems

Ian Baldacchino

An Evaluation of a Pharmacist-Run Anticoagulation Clinic

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An Economic Study for the Establishment of a Chlor-Akali Plant in Malta

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Generic Medicines in Malta

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Evaluation of Pharmacist Clinical Interventions in a Geriatric Hospital Setting

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The aims were to assess impact of the new ICH Q10 standard on pharmaceutical industry, to carry out interviews with persons working in the pharmaceutical industry, to perform gap analysis in a live environment to determine what is required prior to an ICH Q10 assessment and to develop an implementation plan. Interviews with Medicines Authority, Qualified Persons and key people in the field were undertaken. A pilot implementation of ICH Q10 was carried out.

An Evaluation of a Pharmacist-Run Anticoagulation Clinic

Kristen Buhagiar

Patients attending the anticoagulation clinic at Zammit Clapp Hospital were interviewed. Their perception of a pharmacist-run anticoagulation clinic was assessed. Correlation analysis was used to investigate the reliability of a dosing algorithm compared to the method of warfarin dosing currently used to keep patients within therapeutic range. Results favoured using this algorithm ($p = \ll 0.05$). With the current method of dosing, patients are often being under-coagulated for long periods rather than kept within range ($p=0.001$).

An Economic Study for the Establishment of a Chlor-Alkali Plant in Malta

Andrew Corrieri

The aim was to study the impact a Chlor-Alkali plant using the latest technologies will have on the island's pharmaceutical economy. Malta is ideal due to the available primary raw material (salt water). The end products are important in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, disinfectants and medical devices. Due to the high electricity consumption, the construction of a perpetual power plant is considered. Around 40% of the total power needed can be generated using the hydrogen produced.

Generic Medicines in Malta

Clifton Curmi

As healthcare costs in the developed world continue to increase, generic copies of successful branded drugs are becoming more and more popular worldwide. The cost of medicines has an impact on the quality of life of patients and the economy of the country. Malta is becoming a niche for the pharmaceutical industry, particularly the generic industry. Encouraging competition in the pharmaceutical market through increasing the use of generic medicines promotes cost containment and stimulates the innovation needed to provide added value products.

Osteoporosis: Better Bone Health

Pierre Fava

The study identifies factors that increase patient visits to a doctor, the main driving factors behind patients' complaints and what factors preoccupy patients the most, for example loss of independence. The study focuses on the development of a tool that can be used by clinicians to assess past and present patient history at a glance and that can also be used when advising a patient to visit a specialist in the field. The tool helps develop a better understanding of the priorities of both doctors and patients coupled with education and enhanced communication that will ensure success in interventions and treatment.

Evaluation of Pharmacist Clinical Interventions in a Geriatric Hospital Setting

Elaine Vella

Clinical pharmacists make many recommendations to improve the care of hospitalised patients. This study aimed to survey clinical interventions by pharmacists at Zammit Clapp Hospital, their acceptance by clinicians and their significance. During a 3-month period, pharmacists recorded specific details of their interventions on a documentation form designed to standardise data collection. A total of 263 interventions were documented of which 80% were accepted by physicians. The highest percentage of interventions were adjustments to dose, frequency and time of dose.