

Development of a Clinical Pharmaceutical Service in Long-term Care

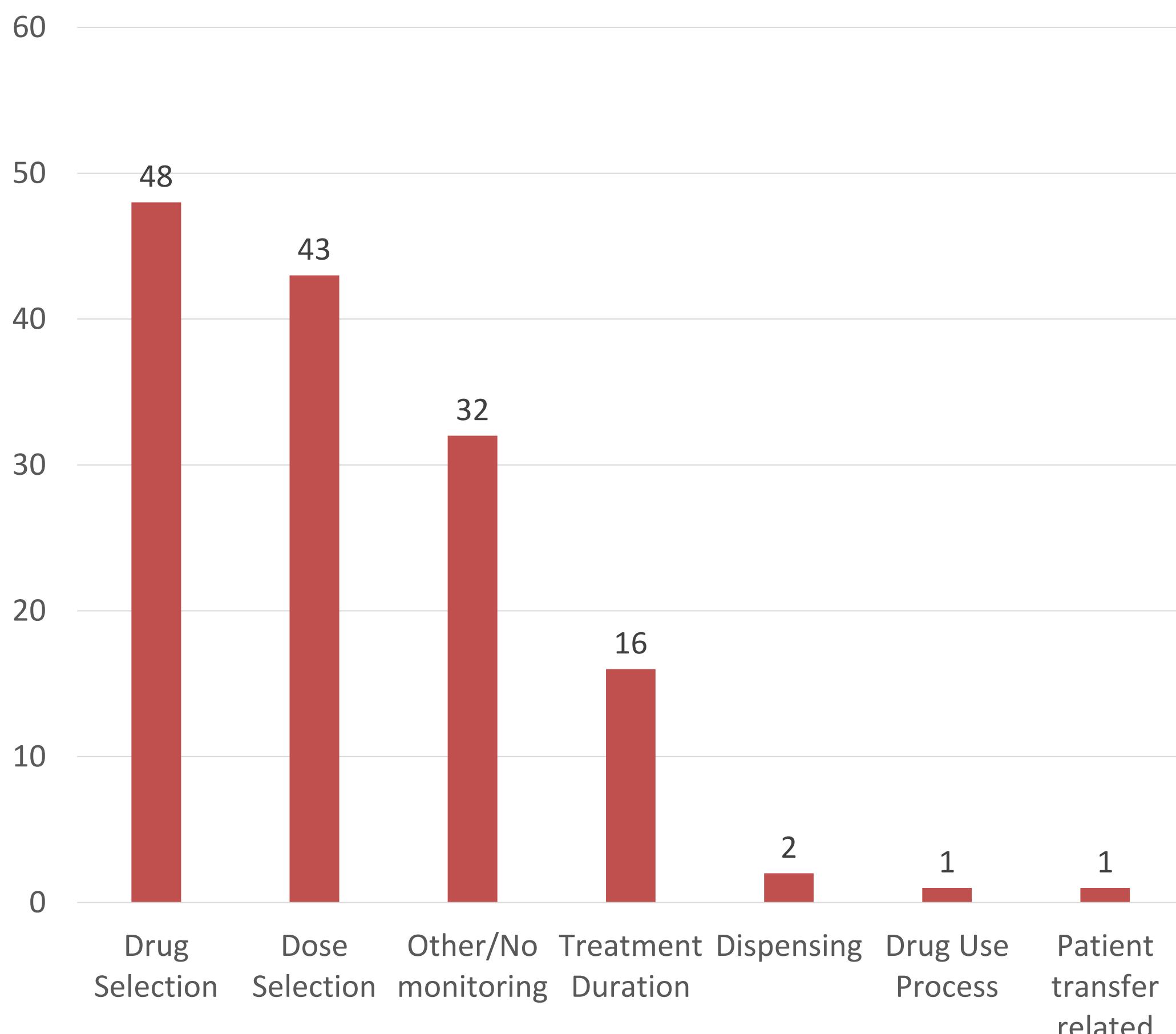
Project brief

The aim is to develop and implement a clinical pharmaceutical service within a long-term care facility for the elderly. The objectives are to i) develop documentation tools to support the service, ii) implement a clinical pharmaceutical service tailored for the elderly and iii) evaluate the service implemented.

Methodology

- The *Patient Medication History on Admission* tool and the *Pharmacist Patient Profile* tool were developed to support the clinical pharmaceutical service implementation.
- The clinical pharmaceutical service was implemented over 8 weeks during which pharmacist interventions such as medication reviews, dose adjustments, interactions and drug monitoring were carried out to enhance medication prescribing accuracy.
- The pharmacist interventions were classified according to the *Pharmaceutical Care Network Europe (PCNE) Classification for Drug-Related Problems (DRPs) V9.1*¹.
- A questionnaire aimed at healthcare professionals working in the same setting as the pharmacist was disseminated to evaluate the clinical pharmaceutical service provided.

Figure 1: Classification of the Causes for Drug-Related Problems identified (N=143)



Results

- A total of 126 Drug-Related Problems, giving rise to 143 causes, were identified for 40 patients participating in the research.
- Drug selection was the highest cause for DRPs (33.57%, n=48) followed by dose selection (30.07%, n=43).
- The acceptance rate for interventions suggested by the pharmacist was 83.3%.
- Healthcare professionals were overall very satisfied with a pharmacist in their healthcare team.

Conclusion

A clinical pharmaceutical service at bedside supports optimum pharmacotherapy use within a multidisciplinary team approach leading to overall improvement in service provided to the elderly.

References

1. Pharmaceutical Care Network Europe Association (PCNE). The PCNE classification for drug-related problems V9.1 [Internet]. The Netherlands: PCNE; 2020 [cited 2025 Feb 20]. Available from: https://www.pcne.org/upload/files/417_PCNE_classification_V9-1_final.pdf