

高齢者投与禁忌薬に対する薬局薬剤師の認識 及びその処方実態に関する研究

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Recognition by Pharmacists of Drugs Contraindicated in the Elderly and Assessment of Prescription Rates

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Summary

We investigated recognition of drugs that are contraindicated in the elderly by 118 pharmacists working in pharmacies, by means of a questionnaire survey. In addition, the electronic medicinal history of 19,679 patients was analyzed to clarify the prescription rate of such contraindicated drugs. The results revealed that 19.5% of pharmacists were not aware of contraindications relating to the elderly, and pharmacists' attentiveness to contraindications in the elderly was weak compared with contraindications for other conditions. The rate of drugs contraindicated in the elderly, but prescribed to elderly patients, was as high as 14.6%. In addition, the prescription rate of anti-diabetic drugs contraindicated in the elderly was analyzed. In Japan, 9 proprietary biguanide anti-diabetic medicines, except for Metgluco[®], are contraindicated in the elderly. However, although Metgluco[®] is suitable for elderly patients, many doctors chose not to prescribe this drug, but instead prescribed other biguanide drugs. The prescription rate of anti-diabetic drugs contraindicated in the elderly, but prescribed to elderly patients for the first time during the investigation period, was 88.2% among elderly patients prescribed biguanides, and this rate exceeded the prescription rate for adult patients under 65 years of age. These results suggest that many pharmacists and doctors are unaware of contraindications in the elderly, particularly for anti-diabetic drugs, implying that pharmacists should improve their knowledge in this area.

Key words

Drug contraindicated for elderly patients, Biguanide, Metformin, Questionnaire, Pharmacists, Diabetic