

Do We Need an Interprofessional Academic Program for the Safety of Medication Therapy?

Anna Laven¹, Julia Thevissen², Anna Böhmer², Radia Al Ghaddioui³, Katharina Olejniczak³, Dorothee Dartsch⁴, Britta Haenisch^{5,6,7}, Cornelia Mahler⁸, Norbert Paeschke⁵, Hanna Seidling⁹, Birgitta Weltermann¹⁰, Ronja Woltersdorf², Ulrich Jaehde²

1. German Society for Interprofessional Collaboration in Healthcare (InZIG) e.V., Berlin; 2. Institute of Pharmacy, Dept. Clinical Pharmacy, University of Bonn; 3. Centre for Evaluation and Methods, University of Bonn; 4. CaP Campus Pharmazie GmbH; 5. Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices (BfArM); 6. German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE); 7. Center for Translational Medicine, University of Bonn; 8. Institute of Health Sciences, Department of Nursing Science, University Hospital Tübingen; 9. Dept. Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacoepidemiology, University Hospital Heidelberg; 10. Institute of General Practice and Family Medicine, University Hospital Bonn

BACKGROUND

With several health care professionals (HCP) being involved in the medication process, the safety of medication therapy can only be increased by an interprofessional effort. An interprofessional academic program on the safety of medication therapy may provide both professional and personal competency for interprofessional collaboration. It may enhance education and training of multipliers and sensitize health care professionals for patients' medication risks, minimizing medication risks in routine healthcare.

OBJECTIVES

Aim of this project is to assess the need for an academic program on the safety of medication and to develop an innovative, interprofessional curriculum.

METHOD

An interprofessional working group guided the curriculum development process. A needs assessment was followed by an analysis of existing programs on the safety of medication therapy. The assessment consisted of in-depth telephone interviews with potential students, lecturers, employers and stakeholders. An online survey integrating these results was conducted in August 2019. The invitation to participate in the survey was distributed by associations and societies of healthcare professionals involved in the medication process.

Assessment



Jan 2019

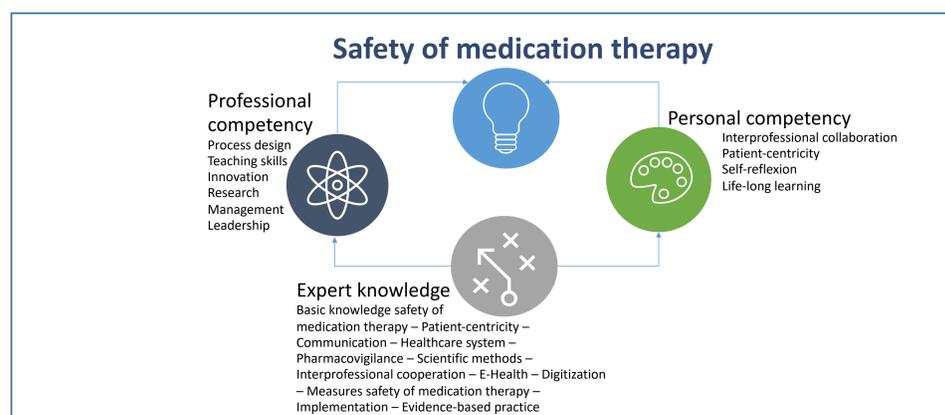
Dec 2019



Curriculum development

RESULTS

Of 687 persons who participated in the survey, 64.6 % were pharmacists, 10.4 % nurses and 8.9 % physicians. 93% of the participants stated to be professionally involved in the safety of medication therapy, and 96.3 % rated an interprofessional academic program as highly desirable or desirable. Overall, the three professions uniformly identified the suggested topics of the curriculum as attractive. Interestingly, the attractiveness of items like roles and responsibilities, patient-centeredness, social aspects of medication and implementation was rated higher by nurses than by physicians or pharmacists. More than pharmacists or nurses, physicians rated statistical and epidemiological methods as attractive. In contrast, this group indicated less interest than the other two in communication (both interprofessional and with patients) as a topic of the program.



Core modules (40 Credits)	Elective Modules (examples, 20 Credits)
Basics and systems	Safety of medication therapy
Scientific methods	... in certain phases of life
Patient-Centricity	... for organ dysfunction
Communication	... in the outpatient sector
Translation	... in hospitals
	... in retirement homes
	E-Health
	Adherence
	Integrative medicine
	Pharmacovigilance
	Pharmacoepidemiology
Internship (30 Credits)	Master Thesis (30 Credits)

CONCLUSION

The needs assessment indicated profound interest in an interprofessional academic program on medication safety among potential students, employers, lecturers and stakeholders in healthcare. There are subtle interprofessional differences in the perceived attractiveness of different aspects of the safety of medication therapy. Based on the results, a competency-based curriculum for an interprofessional, non-consecutive Master program integrating certificate courses was designed.

CONTACT

Dr. Anna Laven, German Society for Interprofessional Collaboration in Healthcare (InZIG) e.V. Schumannstr. 7b, 10117 Berlin – vorstand@inzig.org

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The financial support by the Federal Ministry of Health (BMG) is gratefully acknowledged (SINA project: www.klinische-pharmazie.info/sina).

