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Preliminary results of the Inter-Athenaeum project in community pharmacy (Piedmont, Italy): The role of pharmacists in improving prevention and compliance for diabetes and other chronic diseases

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The Inter-Athenaeum project in community pharmacy aims to improve prevention and compliance for diabetes and other most common chronic diseases: Heart failure, dyslipidemia, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The project is coordinated by University of Turin, the Regional Association of Pharmacy (Federfarma), the Orders of Pharmacists of Piedmont in cooperation with the Regional Epidemiology Unit. The first step of the project is the pharmacist attendance of training courses, performed by specialists of each specific chronic disease. The second step of the project is the development of specific programmes of prevention and compliance within the pharmacy setting. The prevention programme is addressed to the healthy population with specific risk factors is aimed to the early identification of unknown risk factors or undiagnosed diseases. The compliance programme is addressed to acclimated patients and designed to evaluate adherence to therapy. The last step of the project is the pharmacoeconomic evaluation of both the programs for each chronic disease, which will be discussed and evaluated in keeping with public health decision-makers. Preliminary results on the prevention and compliance programmes for diabetes performed by pharmacists show risk factor of getting the disease between 25-30% for citizens considered not sick and almost 30% of patients were not adherent to the drug therapy. Overall, contact tools/survey/counseling may significantly contribute to increase diabetes and other chronic disease prevention by improving lifestyle and diet, mainly among elderly. They also may help to promote better patient adherence to therapy.

Biography

Paola Brusa is an Associate Professor in Pharmaceutical Technology, Socio-economics and Legislation at Pharmacy Dept., University of Turin. Since 2005, she is Vice-president in A.P.P.A.®, a non-profit association concerning the realization of Galenic labs in medical structures sited in developing countries. She is Director of Master in Community Pharmacy, Chiara Colombo since 2010. She is Coordinator of the Inter-Athenaeum Project in Community Pharmacy since 2012. She has published more than 50 papers in reputed journals. She has presided as Lecturer in many conferences.

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