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## Awareness of drug interactions among physicians at governmental health centres in Bahrain

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**Statement of the Problem:** Drug-drug interactions (DDIs) represent a significant cause of patient's morbidity and mortality. The rate of DDIs is rapidly increasing worldwide with the increasing proportion of ageing population and frequent requirement of polypharmacy prescription of multiple drugs to treat comorbidities. Prescribing physicians are responsible for checking their prescriptions for the presence and severity of DDIs. However, since a large number of new drugs are approved and marketed every year, new interactions between medications are increasingly reported. Consequently, it is no longer practical for physicians to rely only upon their previous knowledge of medicine to avoid potential DDIs. The aim of this study is to explore the perceptions of physicians working at primary healthcare centres in Bahrain towards DDIs and how they manage them during their practice.

**Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:** In this cross-sectional study, physicians working at all governmental primary healthcare centres in Bahrain were invited to voluntarily, privately and anonymously respond to a self-administered questionnaire. The questionnaire aimed to assess their self-reported knowledge of DDIs and how they check for them in their practice. The participants were requested to provide socio demographic data and information related to their attitudes towards DDIs including strategies they employ for detecting and managing them, and their awareness of drugs which commonly cause DDIs. At the end of the questionnaire, an open-ended item was added to allow participants to further add any comments.

**Findings:** The study is going on currently and the results will be presented in the conference.

**Conclusion & Significance:** The conclusions will be presented in the conference since the study is still going on.

### Recent Publications

1. McCabe B J (2004) Prevention of food-drug interactions with special emphasis on older adults. *Curr Opin Clin Nutr Metab Care.* 7(1):21-6.
2. Dresser G, Spence J and Bailey D (2000) Pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic consequences and clinical relevance of cytochrome P450 3A4 inhibition. *Clin Pharmacokinet* 38:41-57.
3. Fleisher D, Li C, Zhou Y, Pao L and Karim A (1999) Drug, meal and formulation interactions influencing drug absorption after oral administration. Clinical implications. *Clin Pharmacokinet* 36:233-254.
4. Costa A J (1991) Potential drug interactions in an ambulatory geriatric population. *Fam Pract.* 8:234-6.
5. MacLeod S M and Sellers E M (1976) Pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic drug interactions with coumarin anticoagulants. *Drugs* 11(6):461-70.

### Biography

Yasin I Tayem completed his MD from Al-Quds University School of Medicine, Palestine in 2001 and PhD in Clinical Sciences from the University of London, United Kingdom in 2006. From 2006 to 2013, he worked as an Assistant Professor of Pharmacology at the Al-Quds University School of Medicine. He has also been active in undertaking research, especially in collaboration with many international institutions including Mayo Clinic (USA), Gothenburg University (Sweden), Birmingham University (UK) and Kuwait University (Kuwait). From 2012 to 2013, he held the position of a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), Maryland, USA. Since 2013, he has been working as an Assistant Professor of Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the Arabian Guild University, Manama, Bahrain.

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