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## Medication review procedures in European countries

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Medication review procedures have been developed in many countries to improve rational and safe medication use. The aim of this study was to explore medication review practices in European countries. An online survey was sent to 32 European countries (all 28 European Union countries and 4 other European countries) by email to one person in each country known to be aware of medication review practices in their country in May 2011. The informants were identified through Pharmaceutical Group of European Union. To complement and validate the information received through Pharmaceutical Group of European Union, medication review experts involved in Pharmaceutical Care Network Europe were contacted. The survey assessed comprehensiveness of the medication review procedures classified according to 3 types in terms of settings; access to patient clinical information; patient involvement; availability of documentation and information; collaboration with the physician; quality control, and training required. Almost two thirds (64%) of the 25 European countries which responded (response rate 78%) indicated having at least one type of medication review procedure in their country. In the community setting prescription (type I) and adherence (type II), medication reviews were the most common (established in 9 and 11 countries, respectively). More comprehensive type III clinical medication reviews requiring access to clinical patient information were still rare, and just being established in 6 countries. Medication review procedures are becoming common in healthcare throughout Europe, however improving their comprehensiveness would require better access to patient information for those professionals conducting clinical medication reviews. In addition to benchmarking, the inventory can enhance cooperation between countries and stakeholders involved in medication review practice development nationally and internationally.

### Biography

Anna Bulajeva Anna has completed her Master's Degree in Pharmacy in 2010 from University of Latvia and same year started PhD studies in University of Helsinki, Division of Social Pharmacy. Her focus area is quality management in community pharmacy services. Her research projects have both national and international perspective. She has participated in several international conferences, like FIP and PCNE, where she presented some research results. Currently, she works as in-house trainer for University Pharmacy chain outlets in Russia.

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