Suggestions for improving continuity of medication between hospital and home in a local context of Wallonia

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Background

The problem
Modifications of the usual medication when the patient goes from one level to the other

Search for solutions
It is necessary to have a dialogue with local ‘actors’ to find acceptable and feasible solutions

Previous local study
Expressions of the different local actors’ point of view
Research question

Which local strategies could be implemented to improve continuity of drug therapy when the patient moves to hospital and back home?

1. Which strategies are proposed by actors of different professions?

2. Which strategies are acceptable by all of them?
1. Which strategies are proposed by local actors of different professions?

**Method**

**Actors**
- General practitioners - Pharmacists
- Hospital specialists - Hospital stakeholders

**4 nominal groups**

« *Which solutions do you suggest in order to improve continuity of drug treatment when the patient transfers from home to hospital and vice versa?* »

- Individually written suggestions
- Sharing with the group
- Clarification of sentences
- Vote

Thematic analysis by the researchers based on the central idea of the suggestion
1. Which strategies are proposed by local actors of different professions?

Results

101 suggestions from the groups

Specific actors
- Hospital
- GP
- Pharmacists
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Any health professional ...
- Privileged interlocutor

Specific means
- Better communication
- Computing network
- Shared tools
- Standardised processes
- Financial aspects
## Results

1. Which strategies are proposed by local actors of different professions?

### Participants

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<tr>
<th>Themes</th>
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### Specific actors

- Hospital
- General practitioner
- Pharmacists
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Any health professional
- Privileged interlocutor

### Tools or processes

- Better communication
- Computing network
- Shared tools
- Standardised processes
- Financial aspects

![Color legend](samples/c6.png)
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## Results

### Specific actors

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### Tools or processes

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1. Which strategies are proposed by actors of different professions?

2. Which strategies are acceptable by all of them?
2. Which strategies are acceptable by all actors?

**Method**

**Actors**
- 10 representatives of general practitioners
- 10 representatives of pharmacists
- 10 other specialists in hospital
- 10 hospital stakeholders

**Modified Delphi process**
- 101 propositions of the nominal groups
- 65 having received a vote
- Mixing together from different groups
- 33 propositions submitted to the participants

**Tour 1:** acceptance, rejection or new formulation

**Tour 2:** prioritization of the propositions
2. Which strategies are acceptable by all actors?

Results

The GP prepares a letter containing the necessary information about the patient’s treatment before hospitalisation.

The hospital implements formal processes about the patient’s drug treatment follow-up.

The hospital gives a readable list of drugs to the patient when he/she leaves the hospital.
2. Which strategies are acceptable by all actors?

**Results**

Centralisation of the patient's data

A unique medical record containing information about, among others, drug treatment that is accessible by the professionals of the two levels of care
Bias of the study

- Complex problem
- => may require a combination of some implementation strategies

- Influence of structure and organisation on individuals’ behaviours
Conclusion

- Possible implementation ➔ action research

- Some important or suggestive missing elements
  - the patient
  - the cost (for the patient, for the society)
Thank you for your attention

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