Conclusions

Majority of food handlers had good knowledge and positive attitudes towards hygienic food handling. However, it was not observed in practice. The food safety practices were inadequate highlighting the need for closer monitoring.

PP081

Adverse drug reactions in a cohort of Sri Lankan patients with non-communicable chronic diseases

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Introduction and objectives

Adverse drug reactions (ADRs) are a major problem in drug utilization.

The study aimed to describe the incidence and nature of ADRs in a cohort of Sri Lankan patients with non-communicable chronic diseases (NCCDs).

Method

This prospective observational study conducted in a tertiary-care hospital recruited in-ward patients with NCCDs. All ADRs that occurred during the index hospital admission and in the 6-month period following discharge were detected by active surveillance. Details were recorded using the ADR reporting form, developed based on the publication of the Clinical Center, Pharmacy Department, National Institutes of Health.

Results

715 patients were studied (females-50.3%, mean age–57.6 years). The mean number of medicines given per patient was 6.11±2.97. The most prevalent NCCDs were hypertension (48.4%; 346/715), diabetes (45.3%; 324/715) and ischemic heart disease (29.4%; 210/715). 112 patients (15.7%) experienced at least one ADR. In the 112 patients, 154 ADRs (33 during index hospital admission; 121 during 6-month period following discharge) were detected. 51.9% (80/154) of them were potentially avoidable. 47% (73/154) of ADR swere Serious Adverse Events (SAEs); 13 were life threatening, 46 caused hospitalization and 14 caused disability. The most common causes for re-hospitalization due to ADRs were hypoglycemia due to anti-diabetic drugs (17/46), bleeding due to warfarin (14/46) and hypotension due to anti-hypertensives (6/46).

Conclusions

Incidence of ADRs was high in the study population. A large proportion of them were SAEs. The majority of ADRs that required re-hospitalization were caused by widely used medicines and were potentially avoidable.

PP082

Characterizing gait deviations in patients with diabetes mellitus with and without peripheral neuropathy

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Introduction and objectives

Patients with diabetic peripheral neuropathy (DPN) have high incidence of walking injuries. Early assessments of gait can help implement preventive measures which can reduce injuries and further disability. The objective was to characterize the gait deviations in patients with diabetes mellitus with and without peripheral neuropathy.

Method

The study was carried out in the National Hospital, Sri Lanka in male patients with diabetes neuropathy (n=35) and without neuropathy (n=35). Self-administered questionnaire was used to obtain demographic details. Presence of diabetes and neuropathy were confirmed by neurological examination and case records. The gait was recorded using a camera system in trail. The trail consisted of acceleration and