



**Libyan International Medical University**  
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# Attitude, barriers and facilitators to practice based research: cross-sectional survey of hospital pharmacists in Saudi Arabia

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# Introduction

- ✓ Traditionally, pharmacy has been slower than medicine and nursing in participating in practice-based research
- ✓ Despite the increasing involvement of pharmacists in PBR over recent years, most published studies have originated from the Western world with relatively fewer reports from Asia and Middle East
- ✓ Little is known about the perceived attitude, barriers and facilitators of Saudi Pharmacists about practice-based research

# Introduction

- ✓ The practice of PBR will not only improve the quality of pharmaceutical care delivered by the pharmacist but will also broaden the scope of pharmacy practice
- ✓ pharmacists should engage in research to ensure the recency of professional practice
- ✓ Pharmacists practicing in Middle Eastern countries are often perceived to show a lack of interest in research

# Methods

- ✓ This study was a part of master thesis completed at Pharmacy, School of Medicine, and University of Tasmania and was carried out at the King Abdul Aziz Medical City (KAMC), in Riyadh, Jeddah and Al Ahsa.
- ✓ The Pharmaceutical department is divided into outpatient, inpatient and clinical pharmacy services.
- ✓ The Clinical pharmacists perform and undertake all duties related with daily clinical activities

# Methods

- ✓ The development survey is often the most concerning aspect of assessing a gain in knowledge or change in behaviors and actions of the program participants
- ✓ Survey distribution is the process of sending out surveys through different mediums to your target audience and collecting their responses, survey distribution tools allow you to easily reach your selected audience, ask a range of questions and analyses

# Results

- ✓ The analysis was carried out for 166 participants as 16 surveys were incomplete. Three out of four scales to measure attitude, motivators and perceptions of research showed acceptable reliability with Cronbach's alpha of 0.80, 0.79 and 0.59, respectively, whereas the fourth scale to measure willingness to participate in research showed poor reliability with a Cronbach's alpha of 0.29.

# Results

- ✓ A total of 182 pharmacists returned the survey giving an above average response rate of 84 %. Responses were representative of all three regions including more than 70 % of the pharmacists from each region .
- ✓ Pharmacists with re- search experience were more likely to enjoy reading research papers (Mann-Whitney confident in evaluating research findings (Mann-Whitney and designing a research study

**Table 1** Demographics of the respondents to the survey  
*n* = 182(%)

Gender	
Male	80 (44)
Female	93 (51.1)
No answer	9 (4.9)
Age	
25	25 (13.7)
25–30	68 (37.4)
31–35	31 (17)
36–40	26 (14.3)
41–45	12 (6.6)
46–50	10 (5.5)
51 and above	4 (2.2)
No answer	6 (3.3)
Qualification	
Diploma	3 (1.6)
Bachelor	98 (53.8)
Master	37 (20.3)
Pharm D	40 (22)
PhD	1 (0.5)
No answer	3 (1.6)
Number of years of pharmacy	
<2	50 (27.5)
2–5	47 (25.8)
6–10	26 (14.3)
>10	57 (31.3)
No answer	2 (1.1)
Job title	
Assistant Director	2 (1.1)
Associate Clinical Pharmacist	9 (4.9)
Clinical Pharmacist	7 (3.8)
Clinical Pharmacy specialist	8 (4.4)
Coordinator	6 (3.3)
Pharmacist I (<2 year's experience)	65 (35.7)
Pharmacist II (>2 year's experience)	76 (41.8)
Supervisor	6 (3.3)
No answer	3 (1.6)
Response rate	
Riyadh ( <i>n</i> = 114)	103 (90.35)
Jeddah ( <i>n</i> = 71)	55 (77.46)
Al Hasa ( <i>n</i> = 31)	24 (77.4)



# Conti..

- ✓ The perception towards research importance was favorable as majority of the pharmacist perceived research to be important to improve patient care .
- ✓ most pharmacists reported that research has influenced their clinical practice. Less than 15 % disagreed with the concept of the importance of research for self-recognition and less than a quarter disagreed with the importance of research for self-satisfaction

# Conti..

- ✓ the motivators to take part in research. The majority of participants perceived providing the best care for the patient,
- ✓ The most common barrier reported by most pharmacists was lack of time (63 %) followed by not being aware of opportunity (50 %), lack of support (48 %) and never having been asked to do research (46 %).

# Discussion

- ✓ the pharmacist showed their interest to participate in the research but several barriers include time issues, lack of support awareness of opportunity and some of them were never asked to take part of the research
- ✓ clinical interest was a motivator for clinicians to take part as it helps to improve the quality of patient care

# Discussion

- ✓ pharmacists in the Middle East seem to show more willingness and interest in conducting research as compared to pharmacists from the United Kingdom for which two separate studies found only 32 to 50 % of the pharmacists were interested to conduct research respectively . possible explanation for such differences could be because the pharmacists in above two studies were working in the community as opposed to the Middle Eastern studies where pharmacists were mainly working in hospital practice

# Discussion

- ✓ To the best of the author's knowledge, the present research is the first study of Saudi pharmacists' perceptions about PBR. The present study has an excellent response rate of 84 % which demonstrates the sample was representative of the practice settings. A number of limitations are worth considering
- ✓ Future research should look into a survey covering all the major hospitals in the different regions of Saudi Arabia. Additionally, the survey instrument used was not subjected to construct or criterion related validity and one scale in our study show limited reliability

# Conclusion

In conclusion, this study highlighted that the Saudi pharmacists at MNGHA understood the importance and relevance of research as they expressed strong interest to participate and were willing to invest their time

# References

Khizra Sultana, Majed Al Jeraisy, Maha Al Ammari, Rahul Patel and Syed Tabish R. Zaidi (2016) Attitude, barriers and facilitators to practice-based research: cross-sectional survey of hospital pharmacists in Saudi Arabia, Journal of pharmaceutical policy and practice (1) Pages 8



Thanks