



▼ UNDERGRADUATE ABSTRACTS

UG -2: FROM TRIALS TO UNTRIALS: A STUDY ON ATTITUDES AND BELIEFS OF PATIENTS AND PRIMARY CARERS TOWARDS DEPRESCRIPTION IN A TERTIARY PUBLIC HEALTH CARE FACILITY IN PONDICHERRY

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Introduction: Good prescribing practices form essence of drug therapy for better patient care. Major aim of better prescribing is to improve rational prescribing process. The study was aimed to explore attitude and beliefs of deprescription among patients & their primary carers in a tertiary health care facility.

Material and methods: Cross-sectional, questionnaire-based prospective study done for two months. Attitude towards deprescription was assessed by using validated rPATD. Analysis of correlation between participant characteristics and their responses determined using gamma/kappa rank correlation, Mann–Whitney U test & chi-square test.

Results and discussion: 312 patients and primary carers participated in the study. Among 156 patients, 25.6% were hypertensives & 21.2% had diabetes.

41.7% were between 36-50 years of age. Only 16.7% belongs to elderly age group. 43.6% of patients and 62.2% of primary carers were female. 51.3% of the patients were willing to stop one or more of their regular medicine(s) under the advice of treating physician but 62% were satisfied with their current medicine(s). 33.4% were reluctant to stop medicines taking for a long time.

Conclusion: Deprescription gained momentum in recent decade. In our more than 50% of people and their caregivers were willing to try medication cessation under their physician recommendation. There was moderate agreement between patients and their primary carers in trial of medication cessation. Thus, results obtained from this study may help towards improving rationalized prescribing practices in institutional setup.