Children and Youth: Advanced Practices for the Pediatric and Child Health Care Provider

Challenges in Pediatric Pharmacy Practice and Opportunities for Improvement

The Pediatric Medication Safety in the Emergency Department is a collaboration among a multidisciplinary panel of emergency department (ED) providers that introduces specific opportunities unique to pediatric patients. The article intends to provide recommendations and standards to improve medication safety in the ED, as well as prehospitalization and after discharge.

Ever since the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) rolled out the pharmacogenomics to patient care, nearly 200 drug products now contain pharmacogenomic information as part of their labeling, including products commonly used in the pediatric population. The Role of the Pediatric Pharmacist in Precision Medicine and Clinical Pharmacogenomics for Children provides insight on how pharmacists have taken upon themselves the responsibilities to proactively reduce the risk of untoward adverse drug events while also avoiding therapeutic failures.

Approximately 60,000 young children are brought to the emergency rooms each year because they got into medicines that were left within reach. Put Your Medicines Up and Away and Out of Sight provides tips on how to protect your kids from getting a hold of medications in your homes, and what to do when kids accidentally take them.

The unique challenges of the pediatric population require careful consideration for pharmacists and pharmacy departments in hospitals and health systems. The purpose of the ASHP–PPAG Guidelines for Providing Pediatric Pharmacy Services in Hospitals and Health Systems is to assist pharmacists and pharmacy departments in meeting the special needs of pediatric patients in hospitals and health systems. Pharmacy departments must ensure that the elements of pharmacy services meet the pediatric patient needs that are critical to safe, effective, innovative, and cost-conscious medication use in a hospital or health system.
References


