Drug-related Problems and Associated Factors among Adult Psychiatric Inpatients in Northwest Ethiopia: Multicenter Cross-Sectional Study

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Abstract: Objective: To assess the prevalence of drug-related problems and associated factors among adult psychiatric inpatients. Method: Hospital-based multicenter cross-sectional observational study was conducted from April to July 2021 at five randomly selected hospitals in North-west Ethiopia. A total of 325 consecutively sampled patients participated in the study. Clinical pharmacists assessed the DRPs based on clinical judgment supported by updated evidence-based diseases guidelines. A Medscape drug-interactions checker was used to check drug-drug interactions. The results were summarized using descriptive statistics, including frequency, mean, and standard deviation. Odds ratio (OR) with 95% confidence interval were also computed for each variable for the corresponding P-value. The value of $P \le 0.05$ was considered statistically significant. Result: From the total of 325 study participants, more than half of them (52.9%) were females and the mean age \pm (standard deviation) was 30.8±11.3 years. At least one drug-related problem was recorded from 60.9%, 95% CI (55.7-65.8) of study participants with a mean of 0.6±0.49 per patient. Need additional drug therapy was the most common DRP (22.8%), followed by non-adherence to medicine (20.6%) and adverse drug reactions (11%), respectively. Factors independently associated with drug-related problems were rural residence [AOR=1.96,95%CI:1.01-2.84, P-value=0.046], self-employed [AOR=6.0,95% CI: 1.0-36.9, P-value=0.035] and alcohol drinkers [AOR=6.40,95%CI:1.12-37.5, p-value=0.034]. Conclusion: The prevalence of drug-related problems among adult psychiatric patients admitted to psychiatric wards was high. Healthcare providers give more attention to tackling these problems. Being a rural residence, self-employed, and Alcohol drinkers were associated with drug-related problems.

Keywords: psychiatric patients, drug-related problems, multicenter, Ethiopia

Conference Title: ICPPMH 2022: International Conference on Psychiatry, Psychopathology and Mental Health

Conference Location : Paris, France **Conference Dates :** July 19-20, 2022