



Assessment of Prescribing Practices of Prescribers in Abbottabad, Pakistan, using WHO Guidelines

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SUMMARY. The objective of this study is to assess and compare prescribing practices of Public and Private Prescribers of Abbottabad, Pakistan. A comparative cross-sectional study for evaluating the prescribing practices of private and public healthcare practitioners. WHO Prescribing Indicator Form was used to collect the data and study the prescribing practices. Overall the average number of drugs per prescription was 4.10 ± 1.505 . Percentage of antibiotics prescribed was 17.78%. Percentage of drugs prescribed by generic name was 0.13%, 68.72% of drugs prescribed were from Essential Drug List. Multivitamins prescribed were 7.51% and percentage of injections was 6.87%. The average number of drugs per prescription was not significantly different between the prescription of public sector and private sector of Abbottabad *i.e.* 3.97 drugs for public and 4.24 drugs for private sector. Overuse of antibiotics was low in present study as compared to the studies conducted in India (58%), China (48.43%) and United Arab Emirates (31.10%). The prescribing practices are not being properly followed according to WHO guideline, yet in case of some indicators like percentage of antibiotics prescribed and percentage of injections prescribed was lower than other countries.

KEY WORDS: Prescribing indicators, Prescribing practices, Rational drug use, WHO guidelines.

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