

Patient Perspectives on Delivery of Drug Therapy Information and Renal Pharmacist Quality Indicator – Drug Therapy Problems (QI-DTPs)

Mary T Lam BSc. M(Pharm), Natalie Lesko BSc(Pharm), ACPR, PharmD, William Nevers BSc(Pharm), ACPR, PharmD, Sean Gorman BSc(Pharm), ACPR, PharmD, Kate Boutin BSc. BSc(Pharm), ACPR, Alice Ratcheva BSc(Pharm), ACPR, Marie Michaud MD, Susan Haskett RN

Background

- Chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients have complex medication regimes = high risk of DTPs
- Consensus of renal pharmacist 17 QI-DTPs developed in 2015/16 to improve renal pharmacy practice & patient care
- Barriers and facilitators for renal pharmacist uptake of QI-DTPs in practice identified in 2016/17
- Patient and family centered care are set as priorities and initiatives by the Ministry of Health and Interior Health Authority
- Patient input will inform the development of an intervention promoting the uptake of QI-DTPs

Objectives

- To determine the type of information renal patients require to make **decisions** about drug therapy
- To determine the type of medication-related information renal patients would like to **enable them to adhere** to their medication regimen
- To obtain **patient input** on a previously developed list of renal pharmacist **QI-DTPs**
- To help inform the development of an intervention to increase the uptake of renal pharmacist QI-DTPs

Methods

Design

- Prospective, single center, qualitative study

Setting and sampling

- Kelowna General Hospital Renal Clinic
- Purposeful sample

Inclusion

- CKD patients: Stage 3, 4 and 5
- ≥1 of Diabetes, Hypertension or Cardiovascular disease

Data collection

- Semi-structured, 1-on-1 interviews in-person and phone using interview guide developed by study investigators
- Interviews transcribed by one study investigator

Data analysis

- Transcript-based thematic analysis
- Consensus of coding and themes for each interview

Results

Table 1. Demographics

Characteristic	n = 10
Age (years)	70
Female	5 (50%)
Diabetes	6 (60%)
Hypertension	9 (90%)
Cardiovascular Disease	5 (50%)
CKD Etiology	
Hypertension	1 (10%)
Diabetes	2 (20%)
Multi-factorial	6 (60%)
CKD Stage	
3	5 (50%)
4	3 (30%)
5	2 (20%)

Table 2. Decision-Making Information & Sources

Helpful	Utterances (Participants)
Adverse Drug Reactions	16 (9)
Expected benefit(s)	14 (7)
Administration of medication	9 (8)
Medication indication	8 (7)
Unhelpful	
Confusing terms	8 (4)
High volume	4 (2)
Sources - Verbal	
Physician	52 (9)
Pharmacist	46 (10)
Sources - Written	
Pharmacy Handout	17 (9)
Internet-Based	10 (6)

Results

Table 4b. Input on QI-DTPs

Example - Diabetes QI-DTP

In patients with above normal A1c, add medications to decrease A1c to prevent further damage to the kidneys

High Priority	Code	Utterances (Participants)
Diabetes n=4 (6)	Diabetes can damage my kidneys	2 (2)
	Important to optimize blood glucose	1 (1)
Hypertension n=8 (9)	Slow progression of kidney disease	4 (4)
	Takes an ACE-inhibitor	2 (2)
Prevention of CVD n =5 (5)	Previous adverse event	2(3)
	Prevent CV event	1(1)

Table 3. Information to Support Adherence

Barriers to Medication Adherence

Code	Utterances (Participants)
Evening dosing	3 (3)

Enablers to Medication Adherence

Code	Utterances (Participants)
Knowing benefits	1 (1)

Additional information or discussion of benefits would not be helpful
n=9 #utt. 21

"I don't miss medications because I don't have the information about how it works or anything, it's just that I have forgotten to take them completely"

Table 4a. Input on QI-DTPs

Expectation of medications

Code	Utterances (Participants)
Slow progression of CKD	8 (8)
Better health / Improve Health	5 (5)

General priorities or concerns

Code	Utterances (Participants)
Decrease # of medications	8 (8)
Optimize medication therapy	3 (3)

Limitations

- 1 in-person interview, 9 over the telephone
- Could not code portions of one interview
- Study timeline and recruitment limited number of participants
- Role of Patient advocate co-investigator had to be changed

Conclusions

CKD Patients:

- Want to be involved in medication decisions

Information:

- Patients are interested in indication, mechanism of action, expected benefits/risks and how to use their medication
- Medical terminology can be confusing
- Find high volume of written information unhelpful
- Additional information or discussion about benefits would not help with adherence

QI-DTPs:

- High priority to patients based on their current medications
- Expect their medications to slow the progression of CKD and improve health

