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Competency

- Competency refers not only to the practitioner's grasp of pharmaceutical knowledge, but also adherence to standards and to their protection.
- The phrase clinically competent should refer to a practitioner who is pharmaceutically, legally, culturally, and ethically informed and has an obligation to draw upon appropriate available knowledge bases when meeting a patient's needs and resolving problems.

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الزام سے ہم معلوماتی سطح پر آئے ہیں

Introduction

➤ The most common situations that involved ethical issues could be grouped into two different types:

- (1) those which occur daily during the patient/practitioner interaction
- (2) those which occur in the institutional context.

institutional context

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Common Ethical Impasses (problems) in Pharmaceutical Care Practice

A Patient-practitioner interaction B Institutional Context

① ➤ Patient confidentiality and privacy issues

② ➤ Conflicts of interest

③ ➤ Respect for patient autonomy

④ ➤ Duty to warn

⑤ ➤ Patient / practitioner conflicts in values

① ➤ Allocation of resources and rationing

② ➤ Personal competency, colleague competency

③ ➤ Protection of standards

institutional context

institutional context

Patient-practitioner interaction

Patient Confidentiality and Privacy Issues

بني المريض
قنه الحقونه

- ① Pharmaceutical care practitioners deal with patient-specific information that is personal and sensitive, therefore patient confidentiality and privacy must be maintained at all times.
- ② This includes all written documents and records, as well as all verbal discussions, which must be held in the strictest of confidence.
- ③ Patients trust practitioners not to disclose any personal information about them to any person who is not directly involved in their care.
- ④ This includes the prohibition of practitioners from discussing individual patient cases with friends, family members, or any other clinicians or lay individual without the express permission of the patient.

Patient-practitioner interaction

Conflicts of Interest

بني المصالح

- ① Practitioners are expected to always try to do good for patients.
- ② Beneficence on the part of a health care practitioner means that all the work, decisions, and actions taken are intended to benefit someone else.
- ③ Keeping the patient's best interest in mind sometimes requires that a practitioner set his/her own interest aside.
- ④ Conflict of interest (for an individual): An individual has a conflict of interest when a personal, financial, or political interest exists that weakens his or her ability to meet or fulfill primary professional, ethical, or legal obligations.

Patient-practitioner interaction

Conflicts of Interest

Example

There is a potential for a conflict of interest if the practitioner is in a position to personally benefit from the selection and use of a particular drug product unless that product is unique and no acceptable alternatives exist. In either case, the practitioner needs to disclose his/her personal interest in that product to the patient.

- Personal bias and financial or political interests that affect judgment, reasoning, motivation, or behavior should be suppressed by practitioners who put the patient first.

Patient-practitioner interaction

Patient Autonomy (Independency)

- Patients expect practitioners to respect their autonomy.
- All of the information about drug therapies that practitioners share with patients must be accurate and true.
- Practitioners often need to be convincing (believable) when helping patients decide, but patients must be allowed to make and participate in their own decisions.
- Patient autonomy is best maintained by negotiating a mutually acceptable care plan.

Example: It would be considered unethical for your patient's autonomy to provide misleading drug information or withhold information in order to convince your patient to use the pharmacotherapy you are recommending.

Patient-practitioner interaction

Duty of Warn

- Drugs can save lives, improve health, and prevent illness. However, they can also cause harm.
- Some of the harm caused by drug therapies is unpredictable, but many of the harmful effects of medications can be expected and are therefore predictable.
- Practitioners who treat patients with medications have a duty to warn patients of the known risks associated with drug therapies.

Example It would be considered a failure of your duty to warn not to inform your patient of the potential harmful effects that drinking alcohol can have while taking a course of metronidazole to treat an infection.

Patient-practitioner interaction

Conflicts in Values

- Patients and practitioners often come from different backgrounds, religions, educational systems, and cultures.
- It is important to understand that each patient can have a different set of values and that in some cases, the patient's way of acting or deciding will be very different from the practitioner's.
- Understanding the patient's perspective can be enlightening and empowering in deciding how to manage potential ethical dilemmas.

Example Practitioners who hold personal beliefs that all forms of contraception are wrong have the obligation to see that patients requiring contraceptive pharmacotherapy have access to those products and associated drug information.

