Abstract

Aim: This study was planned for the purpose of defining the manner and behavior of primary and secondary physicians regarding rational medicine use (RMU).

Material and Methods: This descriptive study includes primary care physicians prescribing medication and secondary practitioners working at health services in the center of Burdur and the districts (N=102), in Turkey. In the study, without sampling, all the physicians willing to attend the study were reached through a survey taker with face to face interview between the dates 01 April 2015 and 07 July 2015. The data from the study were analyzed through "SPSS 17.0 for Windows" program. Measurable values such as arithmetic mean and standard deviation and countable values were calculated as numbers and percentage.

Results: In the study including 98 physicians, 78 (79.6%) of them were males, 75 (76.5%) were married and their average age was 40.77±8.77. The leading factors affecting physicians’ prescriptions were post-graduate studies for 82 (83.7%), pharmacology class for 75 (76.5%) of the physicians and drug company presentations were the least important factor with 22 physicians (22.4%). The most important criteria for physicians in prescription were the effectiveness of the drug with 97 (99% ) and reliability of the drug with 96 (98%) physicians. Also, it was found out that 98 of the physicians (100%) stated that patients asked them to prescribe certain drugs however only 8 physicians (8.2%) indicated that they always prescribed the drug demanded by the patient while 88 physicians (89.8%) indicated that they sometimes did this.

Discussion: Physicians are especially asked for prescribing painkillers and antibiotics by the patients, however, the physicians cannot meet these demands with the RMU point of view. Our study revealed that physicians should be informed about RMU principles within the scope of continuing medical education. Because, this topic is important, patients live, even so, while dying.