The development of evidence-based medicine research capabilities

Suodi Zhai
Department of pharmacy, Peking University Third Hospital, China

The medication evaluation is the very first thing of medicine selection. Evidence-based medicine is not only a way of evaluation the drug, but also a kind of methodology. The pharmacists should be the main force to evaluate the medication based on evidence-based medicine research:

- Perform high-quality systematic review and meta analysis based on RCT or cohort studies
- Perform network meta analysis to evaluate multiple intervention
- Perform the real world study for drug post-marketing safety evaluation
- Evaluate the clinical guideline with AGREE II
- Perform high-quality guideline by GRADE
- Perform the health technology assessment (HTA) for medication or different dosing regimen

Ongoing projects:
1. Performing the clinical guideline (One completed, two ongoing)
2. Registration study (real world study, three ongoing)
3. HTA (two completed, five ongoing)

Guideline is the connection between clinical practice and evidence. The formation of clinical practice guideline should be based on the systematic review and meta analysis by the way of WHO handbook considering the will of patients and question of pharmacy-economics.

It's critical important for new drug to perform the real world study for drug post-marketing safety evaluation, especially providing the unique evidence for some special drugs.

HTA includes medication, way of administration, dosing regimen, pharmacogenetics. Health technology assessment is the systematic evaluation of the properties and effects of a health technology, addressing the direct and intended effects of this technology, as well as its indirect and unintended consequences, and aimed mainly at informing decision making regarding health technologies.

Evidence-based medicine could provide patients with effective, safe and economical treatment regimen. Pharmacists should be a force to be reckoned with via mastering the methodology of evidence-based medicine.

Current status and future progress of pharmaceutical care and sciences in Japan

Hisakazu Ohtani
Keio University Faculty of Pharmacy, Japan

The role of pharmacists is always changing along with the progress of pharmacotherapy and pharmaceutical care. While the world is small enough to share the knowledge and skills for pharmacists all over the world, we should also aware of different aspects of law, regulation, medical system, medical resources, economics, national traits, etc., in each country. Based on the understanding of these national backgrounds, we will be able to communicate with other countries to progress the health care and sciences in the future.

In this session, I would like to first introduce briefly the current situation of pharmaceutical care, role of pharmacists and pharmacy education in Japan, contrasting with other countries, and then go ahead to the discussion. Followings are only a few examples of many features: With regard to the pharmaceutical care in Japan, Kampo (traditional herbal medicine) is widely used with Western medicines and also covered by the insurance. Upon dispensing, we use a variety of dosage forms such as powders, dry syrups and gel patches, which are rarely used in Western countries. Patients counseling by pharmacists and medication record booklet for patients are very popular and can be reimbursed by the medical insurance. Drug prices are flat and fixed by the government. With regard to the education, we introduced two tracks, a six-years course for pharmacists and four-years course for researchers, in universities.

To promote the international cooperation and harmonization in certain fields of health care and sciences, the different traits into each country should be taken into consideration. The time has come to promote mutual understanding, exchanges of pharmacists and pharmacy students and collaboration in pharmaceutical sciences, among Asian countries. Let's start from exchange, and then go ahead to collaboration and harmonization. In my talk, I will be also introducing the current situation of international exchange of pharmacy students in Keio University Faculty of Pharmacy.