


Pharmacy Research Policy and Procedures: New initiative Project in Saudi Arabia

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In recent years, the number of healthcare research studies with a focus on pharmaceutical care has increased in Arabic countries, emphasized in Saudi Arabia.^[1-4] Furthermore, regulations and guidelines for conducting human scientific research have been developed in the healthcare system, as have types of research reporting or scientific publications.^[5-17] The standards for conducting research place a greater emphasis on humanitarian, such as protecting human welfare, improving patient safety from any potential hazards, and improving clinical trial outcomes in healthcare systems. Therefore, patient protection was standardized, while the system also encouraged researchers to investigate healthcare services by categorizing research into different categories. The exempted ground is that; any study that does not harm patients, such as healthcare research, education surveys, native reviews, systemic reviews, and meta-analysis research, is exempted from the ethical committee's review and approval.^[18,19]

On the contrary, any human research that poses a low or high risk to patients should be approved through a thorough and expedited review process, such as a case-control, cohort, or clinical trial.^[18,19] The majority of previous literature, on the other hand, was focused on medical or nursing research.^[20-36] Except for the investigational medication in clinical trials,^[8,12,25] the pharmacy research did not go into detail about the research design and approval system.^[26] It was critical that the policy and procedures were not discussed in detail and that most of the healthcare organizations kept them as copyright.^[27,28] It was difficult to find such reviews of research policy, particularly in the area of pharmaceutical research. On the other hand, pharmacy research policy and procedures are established in the healthcare organizations' system. As a result, developing an enteral approach and implementing it in pharmacy practice will be easier.^[27,28] As a result, the authors reviewed national and international guidelines for healthcare research regulations and good clinical practice guidelines and adopted policy and procedures for pharmacy research.^[5-17] They encompassed most methodology types, including case reports, case-control or cohort studies, cross-sectional and narrative reviews apart from clinical trials, and investigational medication policies and procedures.^[27,28]

In addition to policies and procedures governing education and testing in research, pharmacy competency in research and pharmacy research

quality management is necessary to maintain continuous professional development of skills. The current reviews were reported according to the adopted international Appraisal of Guidelines, Research, and Evaluation (AGREE).^[29] Furthermore, the new pharmacy research policy and procedures initiative covers a wide range of topics that are both beneficial and accessible for implementation in the pharmaceutical care system.^[27,28] Besides, it encourages pharmacists to conduct research and develop investment projects in pharmacy research following Saudi Arabia's new Vision 2030 and Pharmacy Strategic Plan.^[30-34]

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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Consent for Publications

Informed consent was obtained from all the participants

Ethical Approval

This research was exempted from research and ethical committee or an institutional review board (IRB) approval.

<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/decision-charts-2018/index.html>

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