

P03 Standardized patient information leaflets for oral anticancer drugs

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ESOP Global Special Interest Group (SIG) Oral Cancer Drugs

Introduction

The European Society of Oncology Pharmacy (ESOP Global) has multiple “special interest groups” (SIG). The SIG “oral anticancer drugs” (OAD) has, among others, the objective to improve health literacy in oncology patients. Written patient information leaflets (PIL) about OAD are important for patient education. Until now, there are no multi-national standards for PIL about OAD.

Material and methods

After six online meetings over the course of one year, the SIG organized a live workshop in July 2023. The goal was to agree on a standardized template (ST) for PIL about OAD. The available national PIL were used as sources.

Results and discussion

Out of the 13 countries represented in the SIG, eleven members from eight countries participated in the workshop. The national PIL differ greatly from one another. For the ST, a brief format (max. two pages) and 12 categories in patient friendly language were agreed on. These categories are: international nonproprietary name (INN) of the OAD (optional: brand name), photo of the OAD (optional), “Why are you taking this medication?”, “How to take your medication”, “What should you do if you forget your medication or if you vomit?”, handling and storage, specific precautions, interactions, “The most common side effects that you can recognize yourself”, “When should you contact a healthcare professional?”, local contact and emergency number, disclaimer. Creating a ST for PIL about OAD is a first step towards improving health literacy in oncology patients. Using the ST for selected OAD as an example, the SIG needs to reassess suitability and comprehensibility of the PIL, users’ acceptance as well as organizational matters, e.g., translation and distribution via ESOP Global.

Conclusion

Pooling multi-national knowledge has led to a new and unique ST for PIL about OAD. The SIG’s joint work will need to continue to pursue its goal of improving patient education. The aim is to make the ST broadly available to ensure easy and global access and usage.

Keywords: oral anticancer drugs, patient information, pharmaceutical care