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Awareness of physicians and clinical pharmacist about the recent AHA/ACC 2013 guidelines for dyslipidemia

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Objective: In real-world clinical practice, there is a wide gap between evidence based guidelines and their implementation. Therefore, the present study aimed to assess physicians and clinical pharmacists awareness about recently published guidelines for dyslipidemia.

Methods: A structured questionnaire assessing participants' knowledge about the most recent ACC/AHA (American college of cardiology/ American Heart Association) guidelines for dyslipidemia management was designed. After validation, the questionnaires were distributed to physicians and clinical pharmacists from different hospitals of Al-Ahsaa province in Saudi Arabia.

Results: After validation with ten participants (Cronbach's alpha = 0.816), 150 questionnaires were distributed, 77 health care providers accepted to participate (acceptance rate=51.33%) and all of them completed the questionnaires. Most of participants had knew about the release of the ACC/AHA 2013 guidelines for dyslipidemia (77% of the physicians and 48% of the clinical pharmacist). However, knowledge and awareness with the major changes in the recommendations of dyslipidemia management were inadequate and nearly similar for both physicians and clinical pharmacists (The median score for physicians and pharmacists was 4 with a range of 1-9, $Z = -0.15$, $p = 0.88$).

Conclusion: Physicians and clinical pharmacists showed inadequate perception about major practice changes in the most recent ACC/AHA guidelines for dyslipidemia management. Interventions to increase awareness about these changes are needed.

Biography

Mais Hassan Ilaifel has completed her Master degree in clinical pharmacy at age of 25 years from Jordan University of science and technology/ Jordan. She is American Board certified pharmacotherapy specialist. She is a lecturer for at King Faisal University and preceptor of cardiology clerkship for PharmD students. She has published many articles in reputable journals. She is a member in different local and international heart and diabetes associations.

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