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Exploring the opinions and experiences of patients with generic substitution: A representative study of polish society

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This study aims to analyse the opinions, experiences and preferences of Polish patients towards generic drugs. The survey was conducted by means of face-to-face interviews. Respondents were drawn from the general population according to a population structure. The study covered a representative sample of 1000 Poles; the results can be generalized to apply to the Polish population at large. Fifty-two percent of respondents declared to be more often choosing generics, twenty-three percent did not have any specific preferences, and twenty-five percent were more willing to choose brand-name drugs. Past experience with cheaper generic drugs, secondary or lower education, low income and residence in specific regions of Poland – were all significantly associated with an increased willingness to choose generics. Respondents' attitudes towards generics were mostly influenced by the opinions of doctors and chemists. According to respondents, attitudes towards generics among doctors, chemists, family and friends, and in the mass media were mostly positive. There was no relationship between the preference of respondents for generics and factors such as their age, life stage, gender, household size or urban/rural locality. As a result of substituting a brand-name drug with its generic equivalent, 72% of respondents reported that they had not noticed any difference in drugs effectiveness; 21% had experienced a reduced effectiveness of treatment or increased side effects at least once; and 7% claimed the generic worked better. The majority of respondents who used cheaper substitutes claimed that generics represented good quality. In consideration of the foregoing, awareness-raising campaigns may be recommended, supported by a variety of systemic solutions and tools to encourage generic substitution.

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Effect of sterilization on the physical stability of Brimonidine-loaded solid lipid Nanoparticles and Nanostructured lipid carriers

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Nanoparticulate delivery systems have recently been under consideration for topical ophthalmic drug delivery. Brimonidine base-loaded solid lipid nanoparticles and nanostructured lipid carrier formulations were prepared using glyceryl monostearate as solid lipid and were evaluated for their physical stability following sterilization by autoclaving at 121°C for 15 minutes. The objective of this work was to evaluate the effect of autoclaving on the physical appearance, particle size, polydispersity index, zeta potential, entrapment efficiency and particle morphology of the prepared formulations, compared to non -autoclaved ones. Results showed that, autoclaving at 121°C for 15 minutes allowed the production of physically stable formulations in nanometric range, below 500 nm suitable for ophthalmic application. Moreover, autoclaved samples appeared to be superior to non -autoclaved ones, due to their increased zeta potential values, indicating a better physical stability. As well as, increased amount of brimonidine base entrapped in the tested formulations.

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