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Perception of Filipino community pharmacists in Manila on pharmacy-based immunization program

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Increasing cases of vaccine-preventable diseases and low vaccination rates among adults had led the pharmacists in other countries to become key players in disease prevention by expanding their roles in the administration of vaccines. In the Philippines, vaccine-preventable diseases continue to escalate. Moreover, vaccination among adults remains to be uncovered in the Expanded Program on Immunization of the Department of Health (Robles, 2015). Thus, the Philippine Pharmacists' Association and Food and Drug Administration tailored a plan to implement a program authorizing FDA-trained community pharmacists to administer vaccines. This study aimed to describe the perceptions of the selected Filipino community pharmacists in Manila regarding the administration of adult vaccines. Through convenience and random sampling, a total of 300 questionnaires were distributed to licensed community pharmacists in the City of Manila and only 263 questionnaires returned which gave a response rate of 87.67%. A 5-point Likert scale was used to measure their perception in each category. The collected data were encoded and analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 19. Spearman's Rank-Order Correlation, Mann-Whitney U Test, Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA and Fisher's Exact Test were the biostatistical analyses used. Results showed that more than half of the respondents supported (69%) the pharmacy-based immunization program. Most community pharmacists agreed on the statements regarding the competence of the pharmacist to immunize (mean=4.19+0.564), the increased accessibility of vaccinations to the community (mean=4.10+0.582), the positive effects of the program to their professional services (mean=3.71+0.535) and the readiness of their pharmacy (mean=3.72+0.793) to adapt the program. In conclusion, community pharmacists conveyed a high acceptance level towards pharmacy-based immunization program.

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Antimicrobial activity of 1,2-benzenedicarboxylic acid, butyldecyl ester isolated from the seeds and pods of *Acacia nilotica* Linn

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The antimicrobial activity of 1,2-benzenedicarboxylic acid, butyldecyl ester isolated from *Acacia nilotica* was determined using standard methods. The compound was isolated by directing the fractionation of ethyl acetate extract of the air dried seeds and pod with microbial sensitivity test. The results of the antibacterial screening showed that the ethyl acetate extract of *Acacia nilotica* Linn exhibited the highest activities against the test microbes with zones of inhibition diameter ranging from 27-32 mm against *Salmonella* Typhi, *Escherichia coli*, *Streptococcus fecalis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Candida krusei* and *Shigella dysenteriae*. The structure of the compound was identified from $^{13}\text{C}_{\text{NMR}}$, $^1\text{H}_{\text{NMR}}$, IR and GC-MS spectral data. The isolation, structural elucidation, NMR spectral assignment and bioactivities are reported.

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