

ABSTRACT

DRUG INFORMATION SEARCHING BEHAVIOR OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS AT EKA HUSADA HOSPITAL

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Tuberculosis (TB) was an infectious disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis. Achieving timely cure requires good knowledge of TB treatment. Misinformation and perceptions obtained can affect patients' success treatment rate, resistance, repeated treatment, and even death for the patient. The purpose of this study was to determine the drug information seeking behavior of TB patients at Eka Husada Hospital. This was a qualitative research. Data collection was carried out through interviewing four respondents on March 13th and 16 th 2023. Half of the respondents were aged 25-45 years, two of them were female, their education ranging from elementary school to tertiary education, self-employed, had hypertension and diabetes mellitus comorbidities, the treatment phase of all respondents had reached the continuation phase, and the length of treatment of respondents was dominated by > 6 months. The results of the interviews showed that respondents had confusion or questions about drugs, had searched for information related to drugs including about how to take the medications and side effects of drugs. All of them was more likely to directly ask doctors about drug information. Innovation in providing drug information to patients such as giving flyers is needed. The pharmacy department is suggested to improve drug information services (PIO) for new TB patients and TB patients who were already being received continuation phase. Additionally, in future research, condussive interview location that avoids noise or using better tools such as microphone to get clearer respondent's voice is needed.

Keywords : *Tuberculosis, drug information, behavior, Qualitative*