A community trial was undertaken in 2014 (SOS Pharma Idoso project - SOSPIp), where community pharmacies (CP) were invited to test the implementation of an advanced pharmaceutical service (APS), consisting of medication review (MR) and weekly preparation of multicompartment aids (MCA) for elderly polypharmacy patients[1,2]. The selected process indicators suggest that implementation may be hindered by barriers.

This study aimed to assess pharmacists’ perception about barriers for the implementation of APS, while describing their experience with SOSPIp, and to collect information about facilitators that could be incorporated in future studies.

An exploratory study was used where 44 community pharmacists were invited to participate in an interview. (38 from SOSPIp in 2014; 6 joined in 2015)

A semi-structured interview guide was designed, comprising 8 open questions, focused on:
1. reasons for deciding to engage (or not) in the study;
2. their experience while engaging;
3. sustainability of the service.

14 community pharmacists accepted to participate

2 Face to face
5 by telephone
7 by e-mail

“Patient B has always had glycemia values up to 400mg/dl. After his experience with MCAs the values are finally controlled” Pharmacist E

Verbatim Transcription

Content analysis was used to generate codes.

The study suggests that although academia is seen as a driver of practice change, effective implementation requires additional efforts from other organizations. In the future, articulation of efforts between involved stakeholders should precede field testing for increased success.

Barriers and facilitators for the implementation of advanced pharmaceutical services

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