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Supply Chain Practice and Associated Factors in Public Health Facilities, West Gojjam Zone, ETHIOPIA: Cross-Sectional Study

Abstract

Background:

Supply chain practices are various activities taken by the management of any organization for better workability of the whole supply chain and it is the backbone of the healthcare system because healthcare service is highly dependent on the availability of medicines. Therefore, this study aimed to assess the status of supply chain practices and associated factors in public health facilities found in west Gojjam zone.

Method and Materials:

A descriptive cross-sectional study design supported with qualitative study was used. The data were collected with self-administered questionnaires and in-depth face-to-face interviews from April/30 to June 30 2018. Epi-Data and SPSS version 20 was utilized for data entry and analysis, respectively. Simple and multiple linear regressions were done and a variable with a p-value less than 0.05 was considered as significantly associated. The qualitative data were analyzed with thematic analysis technique.

Result:

A total of 425 questionnaires were distributed to respondents and 413(97.2%) questionnaires were filled and returned successfully. Procurement, after-procurement service, and monitoring and evaluation were under-performed supply chain practices with a mean value of 2.85, 2.24, and 1.86, respectively. Conversely, the storage practice was a relatively better-performed supply chain practice with a mean value of 3.34. The multiple linear regression analyses also discovered that the number of trainings, the IPLS skill of the staff, management support, and the distance from PFSA were significantly associated with the most of the supply chain practices. Besides, limited medicine availability at PFSA, budget shortage, delayed reimbursement by health insurance agency, and absence of technicians who are capable of medical equipment maintenance services were identified as the major challenges for supply chain practices.

Conclusion:

Generally, the status of implementation of the supply chain practices in public health facilities was drifted. Besides, there were many factors identified as constraints for effective operation of supply chain practices.

Biography

Bereket Bahiru has his expertise in conducting evaluation of pharmaceutical supply chain practices in health facilities and expertise on providing supportive supervision for stakeholders how to improve the status of supply chain practices. He is actively involved in doing various researches related to pharmaceutical care including pharmaceutical supply chain management, rational drug use, pharmacoeconomics and pharmacotherapy.

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