

Patient's own medication use in hospital: effect on self-reported medication knowledge

L.J.M. van Herpen-Meeuwissen^{1,2}, B.J.F. van den Bemt^{1,3}, B. Maat², H.A.W. van Onzenoort¹

¹ Radboud University Medical Centre, Department of Pharmacy, Institute for Health Sciences, 6525 GA Nijmegen, The Netherlands;

² Elisabeth-TweeSteden Hospital, Department of Pharmacy, 5042 AD Tilburg, The Netherlands;

³ Sint Maartenskliniek, Department of Pharmacy, 6574 NA Nijmegen, The Netherlands;

Contact: L.J.M. (Loes) van Herpen-Meeuwissen, pharmacist Loes.vanHerpen-Meeuwissen@radboudumc.nl

Background

- Improving patient's medication knowledge and consequently medication use is essential for optimal treatment outcomes
- Patient's knowledge about medication is currently suboptimal → interventions to optimize this knowledge are necessary
- Hypothesis: **Patient's Own Medication (POM) use** will improve patient's medication knowledge.

Objectives

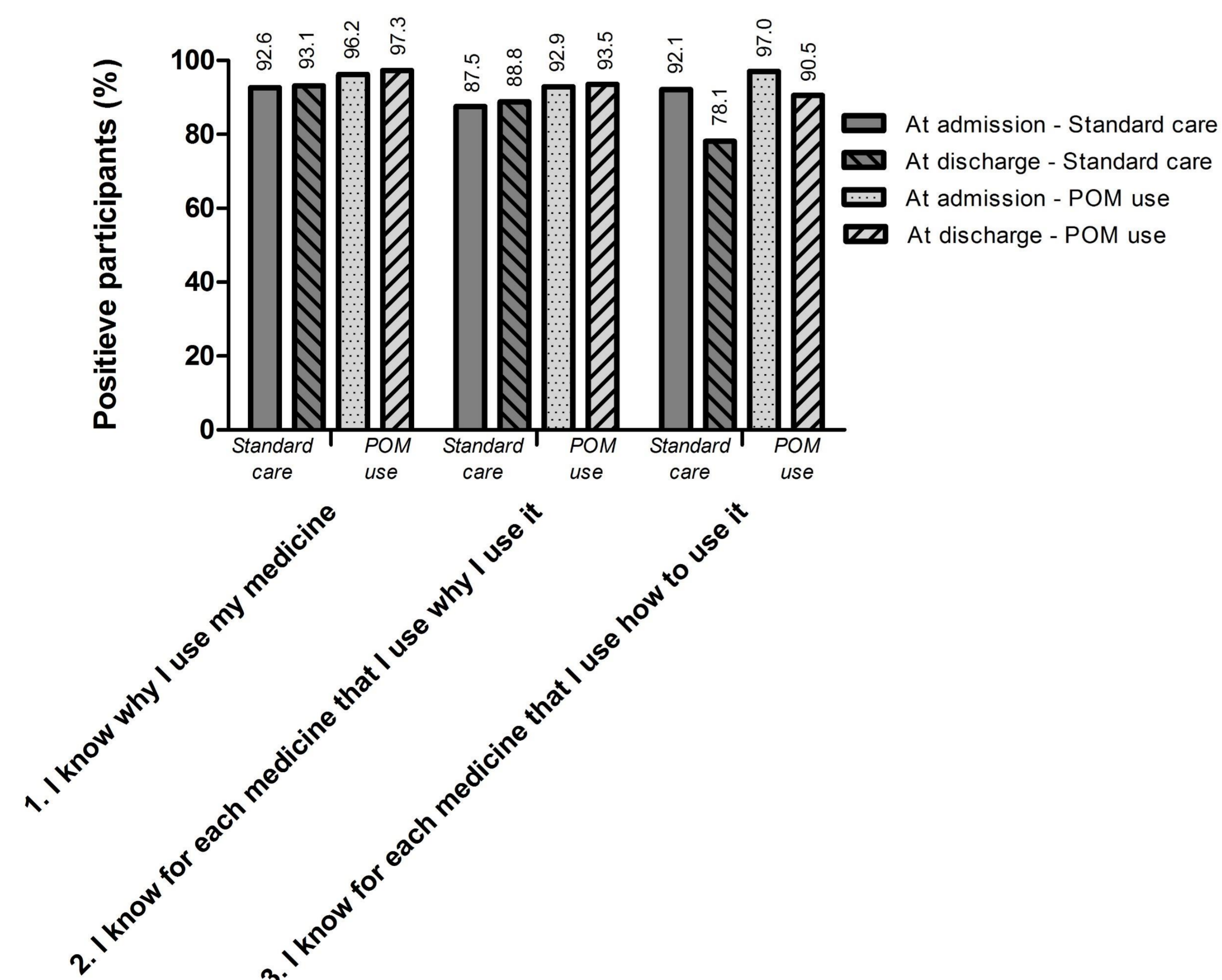
1) To assess the impact of POM use on self-reported medication knowledge of hospitalised patient and 2) POM users' sense of medication safety, attitude to the provision of information, inpatient medication use preferences compared to standard care

Methods

- Nationwide pre-post intervention study
- Perceived medication knowledge** was assessed with a statement questionnaire completed:
 - at hospitalisation
 - during hospitalisation
 - at discharge
- Patients' **answers were categorised** into positive and negative/neutral
- The **proportion** of patients with adequate medication knowledge was **calculated and compared**
- The effect of POM use was corrected for potential confounders in a **multivariate logistic regression analyses**

Results

- 731 patients (80.2%) completed the questionnaire



1) The impact of POM use on self-reported medication knowledge of hospitalised patients compared to standard care (see Figure)

- The majority of the patients reported **adequate medication knowledge** in both standard care and POM use
- In a multivariate model, POM use was only **positively associated** with self-reported knowledge on *how* to use medication at discharge

2) POM users' sense of medication safety, attitude to the provision of information, inpatient medication use preferences compared to standard care (see Table)

- The majority perceived POM use **safer**
- POM users **knew better** which medicines they still used during hospitalisation
- Most patients **preferred** POM use regardless of having experienced it

Statement about medication safety, the provision of information and inpatient medication use	Moment of response	Standard care (% positive)	POM use (% positive)	P value
I think that the use of the medicines that I use at home reduces the number of medication errors.	At discharge	52.9	74.0	< 0.01
During hospitalisation it is clear to me which medicines from home I still use.	During hospitalisation	85.8	92.3	0.01
I am informed about replacing a medicine that I use at home with a medicine from the hospital.	During hospitalisation	65.4	67.8	0.50
When medication is started during the admission, I am informed about this.	During hospitalisation	76.3	79.6	0.29
I have no more questions about my medication after admission.	At discharge	85.2	89.3	0.10
I know where or to whom I can go with my questions about medication.	At discharge	87.5	92.6	0.02
I would like to be able to continue to use my medicines from home during the admission.	At discharge	68.2	82.2	< 0.01
I would like to manage my medicines from home (when they are used during the admission) by myself.	At discharge	56.2	62.7	0.08

Conclusion

- POM use has the ability to positively influence patient's medication knowledge about *how* to use medication
- POM use
 - enhances the perception of medication safety
 - patients have a positive attitude towards the provision of information
 - most patients prefer it

Patients' Own Medication (POM) use seems a valuable intervention. More research towards POM use (in combination with self-administration) is recommended