Preliminary study to establish a new link between hospital pharmacists and retail pharmacists to follow up patients treated by vitamin K antagonists

**Introduction**

Vitamin K antagonists (VKA) overdose is the most common cause of iatrogenic adverse drug reaction in France. Since 2013, the French health authorities are requesting the retail pharmacists to conduct patient’s information sessions about VKA therapy.

**Aim:** To assess the functionality of a new link between hospital pharmacists and retail pharmacists in order to improve patients’ knowledge on VKA.

**Material and methods**

**Patient enrolment**
- In cardiology unit
- Patient information form

**Information session**
- Collective / individual
- By a pharmacist or a nurse
- Questionnaire to fill in

**Communication with retail pharmacist**
- By phone
- Information sent by fax / mail

**Results**

- 11 patients enrolled
- 9 pharmacies agreed to participate
- After 1 month: 7 complete answers from retail pharmacists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of patients</th>
<th>Score after hospital session /10</th>
<th>Score after retail pharmacy session /10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7 (average)</td>
<td>10 (average)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10 (average)</td>
<td>10 (average)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
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**Conclusion**

This first study is encouraging. To improve the follow-up of patients, a link between pharmaceutical services and general practitioners’ consultations should also be developed.

More patients need to be enrolled to assess the efficiency of this collaboration on improving patient’s knowledge.