To what extent is information used to perform medicines reviews?

CLEAR: Clinical and Laboratory data Evaluation for an Appropriate medication Review

**Objective**

To evaluate to what extent different health care professionals were able to use and interpret different sources of information when performing a medication review.

Health care professionals: community pharmacists (PH), nursing home physicians (NH), and general practitioners (GP).

Sources of information: actual medication, laboratory data, reason for admission, and medical history/drug indication.

**Methods & Study Design**

**Expert panel:** hospital pharmacists, geriatricians and psychiatrist.

**Score system:**
- 3 → High clinical relevance
- 2 → Moderate clinical relevance
- 1 → Low clinical relevance
- 0 → No remark / No consensus
- -1 → Potentially harmful

A total score per case and stage was assessed and expressed in a percentage of the total score from the expert panel for the same case and stage. (i.e. using the same information)

**Results & Discussion**

The overall mean percentage over all cases, stages and groups was ≈ 37%.

Well identified remarks:
- Dose reduction due to laboratory values
- Drug stopping due to laboratory values

Missed remarks:
- Addition of new medication or switching medication according to clinical data and/or guidelines.

**Conclusion**

The low mean medication review quality found in this study highlights that information might be incorrectly used or wrongly interpreted, irrespective of the available information.