

Total Electronic Records of Recipe and Advice for the patients

(TerRa)

- Drug history of patient is essential for pharmacist

Effectively managing a patient's medical history is vital for a pharmacy. A patient's drug history includes not only information on past prescriptions, but also patient problems, allergic reactions, past illnesses, current illness, daily habits, degree of compliance to prescriptions, information on drugs obtained from other pharmacies, and all other patient medical history information.

A drug history database is essential in optimizing the pharmaceutical program for the patient, and thus it is an important pharmacy asset.

- Pharmaceutical consulting fees can be charged for drug-history management

1) Consulting fees for managing and advising on drug history

Pharmaceutical consulting fees can be charged for the recording and managing the patient's drug history.

2) Additional special advisory fees

Pharmaceutical consulting fees can be charged for professional advice on drugs based on the patient's drug history

3) Drug information (Instruction sheet (or note) for proper use of drugs) fees

Additional consulting fees can be charged for drug information provided in writing (prescription information). The document includes drug name, effects, precautions (precautions on taking the drugs, side effects, interaction with other drugs, etc.).

- Digital database of drug history is in high demand

An ideal database of drug history would immediately provide complete records of a patient, allowing all pharmacists to attend to all patients, while at the same time not taking up physical space. Most pharmacies in Japan still rely on handwritten drug records that must be searched through manually, and many desire an effective solution of managing this information electronically.

Total Electronic Records of Recipe and Advice for the patients (TerRa) is a forerunner in this field, and is regarded by many institutions as the best such system in Japan. There is still room for improvement, however, and the system is continuously being upgraded.

An introduction to TerRa

1. Image database of all prescriptions:
Allows rapid confirmation of past prescriptions
2. Image database of all handwritten notes by pharmacist:
Continue using handwriting process where it is more effective
3. Database of all patient consultations:
Allows pharmacist to know the details of previous visits
4. Automatically compares current and previous prescriptions, and provides pharmacist with a summary of differences:
Efficient consulting at the counter
5. Alerts pharmacist on prescriptions that are easy to mistake, based on a database of past mistakes in filling prescriptions, both at the Center and at other pharmacies:
Prevents errors
6. Link to the latest database of attached documents for drugs:
Rapid confirmation of drug information
7. Printing function of the instruction sheet (note) to the patient for proper use of drugs with photos of prescribed drugs.
8. Support function for drug monitoring programs:
Supports pharmacists' epidemiology research
9. Mobile access by i-mode (Web-enabled mobile phone):
Allows pharmacists to respond to after-hours patient calls (being developed)
10. Not linked to the receipt computer, allowing free selection from companies on receipt computer:
Pharmacy's assets (patient drug histories) can be permanently maintained

Maintaining an electronic database of patients' drug histories poses various issues, including how to prevent manipulation, and how to ensure patients' privacy. Pharmacy of the Hachioji Pharmaceutical Center is confident, that this will be an invaluable system for pharmacists, and is striving to construct the ideal system.



Photo 1: Patients receive drugs through 13 windows at the counter



Photo 2: Each booth has individual access to the drug history system

Summary of the patient's profile

Current prescription

Precautions for preparing prescription

Past prescriptions, etc.

Photo 3: If any drug in a particular prescription is likely to be a mistake, a popup window appears to alert the pharmacist (precautions for preparing prescription).



Photo 4: Handwritten notes on advice by the pharmacist for past prescriptions are displayed in chronological order