

# Drug information leaflets improve parental knowledge of their child's treatment at paediatric emergency department discharge

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**Background:** Hospital discharge is a complex multidisciplinary process that can lead to non-compliance and drugs-related problems. Crucial issue for children is parental knowledge of discharge treatments, especially in the time-limited and stressful environment of an emergency department (ED).

**Objective:** To compare parental correct knowledge of treatment with and without supply of customized drug information leaflets for the 10 most common prescribed drugs.

**Method:** Inclusion criteria: paediatric patients (0-16 years) with French-speaking parents discharged from Emergency Department of the paediatric department of Geneva University Hospitals (HUG) *before* (phase A) and *after* (phase B) intervention.

Intervention: supply and brief comment of drug information leaflets focusing on specific information not available in official drugs information documents.

Follow-up: semi-structured phone interview within 72 hours after discharge to evaluate the % of parents with correct knowledge of dose, frequency, duration and indication of drugs. Multivariate analysis to identify factors associated with correct knowledge (phases A/B, drugs collection at usual pharmacy, drugs categories).

**Results:** 125 patients were included (phase A: 56; phase B: 69). Drug information leaflets were given to 63/69 (91%) ED patients, covering 96/138 prescribed drugs (70%).

Parental knowledge was significantly improved in phase B (dose: 62.3% to 89.1%; frequency: 57.9% to 85.5%; duration: 34.2% to 66.7%; indication: 70.2% to 94.9%;  $p < 0.0001$ ). Phase B and collection of drugs at usual pharmacy were significant factors associated with correct knowledge.

**Conclusion:** Drug information leaflets significantly improved treatment knowledge of French-speaking parents after paediatric emergency department discharge. Leaflets are available online for general population on

<http://www.monenfantestmalade.ch/fiches/categorie/mon-enfant-doit-prendre-un-medicament>.

Published in : Eur J Hosp Pharm 2015;

Published Online First:

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doi:10.1136/ejhpharm-2015-000776