

An evaluation of a trainers module for community-based learning on self-medication

Background:

The Indonesian Government recently introduced “Intelligent Community Movement Using Drugs” (GeMa CerMat) to promote responsible self-medications that involves pharmacists/pharmacy staff as trainers.

Objective:

- To develop a trainers module on responsible self-medication
- To explore trainers’ perspectives on the use of the module in conducting trainings

Methods:

The trainers module was developed based on literature and an expert panel. The module was implemented in two-days training conducted in Blitar and Ngawi, Indonesia. Day-1: 30 pharmacists/staff were invited as participants (spoke person as trainers). Content analysis was used to analyse responses to open-ended questionnaires. Day-2: 5 pharmacists/staff (of those in day-1) and 30 cadres were invited as trainers and participants, respectively. Focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted and analysed using thematic analysis.

Results

The module consists of 3 competencies: medication categorisation, medication package information, and additional information; and accompanied with a medication pack. 29 and 37 pharmacists/staff were involved in Blitar and Ngawi, respectively. Analysis of questionnaire responses provided 6 themes: module [e.g. separate module for lay people 37.9%, clarifying instructions 4.5%], training aids [e.g. local medication packs 13.6%, visual aids 10.6%], trainer competency [e.g. knowledge 19.7%, communication skill 40.9%], approach [e.g. homogenous group 19.7%, multi-level (trainer-cadre-lay people 6.1%)], time management, and facilities. Two FGDs of 10 pharmacists/staff further emphasised the importance of improving module content, training aids, communication skill, multi-level approach and time management.

Conclusions

The module and the medication pack need to be simplified and adjusted locally where a multi-level approach can be adopted for a broader acceptance.