

## Improving Medication Safety

Dear Colleague,

The WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety has developed a curriculum guide for Medical Schools for teaching patient safety to medical students. As part of your medical course you will participate in learning experiences which have been derived from this curriculum guide. One of these learning experiences focuses on improving medication safety. The following questionnaire has been designed in order to evaluate the levels of knowledge and attitudes to this topic regarding this topic. Completion of this questionnaire will be very helpful in evaluating the effectiveness of the patient safety curriculum but it is not mandatory. We estimate it will take approximately 10 minutes to complete the questionnaire. Please respond to the questions honestly, and if you would prefer not to respond to a particular question then just leave it blank. The questionnaire is anonymous and any information you provide will be reported at a group level, not individually. The data collected will be used to inform future revision of the patient safety curriculum and its delivery to make it more effective and responsive to student needs.

**You are being asked to complete this form as part of a study.  
This will not form part of your final assessment.  
Completing it is not compulsory.**

### Introductory question

What is your current year of study? (Please circle as appropriate)

1<sup>st</sup> year      2<sup>nd</sup> year      3<sup>rd</sup> year      4<sup>th</sup> year      5<sup>th</sup> year      6<sup>th</sup> year

### Questionnaire

## Section 1

Please consider the following scenario and then answer the questions that follow.

### Scenario

In your first post after completing your medical degree, you are asked by a senior doctor to prescribe an antibiotic for a 4 year old boy, who is sick in hospital. You might perform the following actions in prescribing for this patient.

- Taking a comprehensive medication history
- Recalling information about the antibiotic
- Consulting a medicines reference or formulary for any information you don't have
- Considering whether there are any factors in the situation which make an error more likely
- Checking whether there are any individual patient factors (eg age, weight) which will require alteration of the prescription
- Making drug dose calculations
- Asking someone else to double check your prescription
- Communicating clearly with the child, parent, or colleagues

1.01 Considering the first 10 patients, like the one described above, that you meet after graduation, with how many of these patients would you expect to undertake the actions detailed in the box above when prescribing? (please circle as appropriate).

0      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

The following statements all relate to the scenario and actions detailed in the box above. Please circle the option which mostly closely describes your response.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1.02 I know how to undertake these actions.	1	2	3	4	5
1.03 I expect to perform these actions.	1	2	3	4	5
1.04 I want to perform these actions.	1	2	3	4	5

1.05 I intend to perform these actions. 1 2 3 4 5

1.06 Performing these actions when prescribing in such a situation would be

Harmful 5 4 3 2 1 Beneficial  
 Good 5 4 3 2 1 Bad  
 Pleasant (for me) 5 4 3 2 1 Unpleasant (for me)  
 Worthless 5 4 3 2 1 Useful

	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1.07 If I perform these actions my practice will be safer.	1	2	3	4	5
1.08 If I perform these actions the prescription will take longer to write.	1	2	3	4	5
1.09 Performing these actions is unnecessary when writing a prescription.	1	2	3	4	5

	<b>Extremely Undesirable</b>				<b>Extremely Desirable</b>
1.10 Writing a safer prescription is	1	2	3	4	5
1.11 Taking your time writing a prescription is	1	2	3	4	5
1.12 Being thorough when prescribing is	1	2	3	4	5

	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1.13 Most people who are important to me (e.g. colleagues, tutors, friends, family) think that I should perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5
1.14 It is expected that I will perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5
1.15 I feel under social pressure to perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5
1.16 People who are important to me (e.g. colleagues, tutors, friends, family) want me to perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5

	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1.17 The following people think that I should perform these actions when prescribing:					
• Patients	1	2	3	4	5
• Tutors	1	2	3	4	5
• Senior Doctors	1	2	3	4	5
• Junior Doctors	1	2	3	4	5
• Other Students	1	2	3	4	5

	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1.18 Doctors would perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5

	<b>Not at all</b>				<b>Very much</b>
1.19 Doctors' approval of my prescribing practice is important to me.	1	2	3	4	5
1.20 My tutors' approval of my prescribing practice is important to me.	1	2	3	4	5

	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1.21 I am confident that I could perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5
	<b>Easy</b>				<b>Difficult</b>
1.22 For me to perform the actions listed above when prescribing would be	1	2	3	4	5
	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1.23 The decision to perform these actions when prescribing is beyond my control.	1	2	3	4	5
1.24 Whether I perform these actions when prescribing or not is entirely up to me.	1	2	3	4	5
1.25 Time pressures when I start work as a doctor are likely to make it difficult for me to perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5
1.26 Other demands in the workplace are likely to make it difficult for me to perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5
	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1.27 When there are time pressures at work I am less likely to perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5
1.28 When I am distracted at work I am less likely to perform these actions when prescribing.	1	2	3	4	5

*Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.*