

Study related to Over the Counter drugs

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Abstract:

A descriptive study to assess the prevalence and pattern over the counter (OTC) drug usage in selected area of Haldwani. There are concerns about potential increasing use of over-the-counter (OTC) drug. To assess the prevalence and pattern of OTC drug usage in selected area of Haldwani. To determine the association between OTC drug usage and Socio-demographic variables. The descriptive study was done in selected street area of Haldwani. A total of 150 subjects of (20-80) years were selected conveniently each subject underwent a face to face interview with the help of a structured questionnaire, data was collected and analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics in SPSS. Prevalence of OTC drug usage was found to be 86.67% Urban and Semi-urban area found to be significantly associated with higher self-medication usage ($P < 0.05$), Body pain (60.23%), common cold (62.3%) headache (61.53%) and fever (43.84%) were most common illnesses where self-medication was being used. Reasons for self-medication were found in manner like time saving (66.92%), doctor's suggest too many lab test (20.76%) and it's expensive to buy medicine (16.92%). Self-medication is an important health issue in these areas. Health education of the public and regulation of pharmacies may help in limiting the self-medication practices.

Keywords: Prevalence, Pattern, OTC (Over the counter), Self-medication, Selected Area