Inclusion of Geriatric and Pediatric Learning Activities in Canadian Pharmacy Residency Programs
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Background

Introduction
➢ Pharmacy education may not prepare pharmacists to care for special populations.
➢ Residency programs are optional programs that may help further the training of pharmacists.
➢ Residency programs can include specialty rotations such as geriatrics or pediatrics.

Purpose: To identify if there are focused learning activities for geriatrics and pediatrics in Canadian pharmacy residency programs

Objectives
1. Determine the proportion of postgraduate year 1 (PGY1) and postgraduate year 2 (PGY2) residency programs in Canada that include geriatrics or pediatrics rotations
2. Describe the way geriatrics and pediatrics are included in residency programs
3. Identify barriers and facilitators for residency coordinators (RCs) to include geriatrics and pediatrics in residency programs
4. Identify gaps and opportunities in residency training related to geriatrics and pediatrics

Methods
Design: Survey methodology
Ethics Approval: The study was approved by the University of Alberta Research Ethics Board.
Participants: RCs from every residency program across Canada were identified through the CSHP website, who were all invited to participate.
Recruitment: RCs were contacted via email. Individuals consenting were invited to participate in a one-to-one, semi-structured interview.
Questionnaire: The questionnaire and interview guide was developed by the investigators based on published studies that have attempted to survey RCs.
Data Collection: Each interview was conducted via virtual video chat and the responses were documented on a Google Form through the University of Alberta g-suite. Data was compiled on a Google Sheet.
Analysis of Data: Basic descriptive analysis

Results

Objective #1 and #2
PGY1 (n = 29) Geriatric and Pediatric Training Opportunities

Objective #3
PGY1 Barriers
Programs not offering a geriatric rotation that are unable to support a rotation in geriatrics
70%
Programs not offering a pediatric rotation that are unable to support a rotation in pediatrics
83%

PGY2 Barriers
Programs not offering a geriatric rotation that are unable to support a rotation in geriatrics
40%

Objective #4
PGY1 Expansion
10% Programs planning to expand that are currently not offering a geriatrics rotation
50% Programs planning to expand that are currently not offering a pediatrics rotation

PGY2 Expansion
0% Programs planning to expand that are currently not offering a geriatrics or pediatrics rotation

Discussion

What Our Study Adds:
➢ Geriatric and pediatric learning activities are not a priority in pharmacy residency programs across Canada
➢ Pharmacists who complete a residency may not be adequately prepared to care for these populations
➢ There are a number of steps that can be taken to address these gaps