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## Approaches of Pharmacy Services Students in Vocational School of Health Services on Rational Drug Applications

Sultan Mehtap Buyuker<sup>1\*</sup> and Odabasi G<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Forensic Pharmacology and Forensic Toxicology, Institute of Addiction and Forensic Science, Uskudar University, Turkey

<sup>2</sup>Uskudar University, Turkey

The aim of this study is to evaluate the knowledge and behaviors of the Pharmacy Services Program of Vocational School of Health Services (VSHS) students about the rational drug use and to provide students with sufficient knowledge about rational drug use in the Pharmacy Services Program in the light of the data obtained from this study.

This cross-sectional study, conducted between 2017 October and 2018 March, was conducted on the first and second year students of a University VSHS Pharmacy Services Program. In this study, questionnaire was applied to 115 students to assess their knowledge and behaviour about the rational drug use. In the analysis of the data, the mean  $\pm$  standard deviation and frequency were used, and the chi-square test was used for comparison between the groups.

The mean age of 115 students was  $19.54 \pm 1.79$  years. Headache, cold, flu (64.6%) are the leading causes of drug use among the participants. Students were asked to recommend drugs and 30.7% of the participants stated that they recommended medication. The prominence of advertising in the drug was questioned and 58.8% of the participants stated that they did not use advertising products.

As a result of the research, it was seen that the authorities and responsibilities of pharmacy technicians should be emphasized more intensively, they did not prefer advertised drugs for treatment purposes and they should first consult with the physician and then the pharmacist in case of illness.

**Keywords:** Drugs, drug usage, pharmacy technician, rational drug use, students.