

Medicine use of elderly Chinese and Vietnamese immigrants and attitudes to home medicines review

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Reference:

Key Words:

medicines, awareness and attitudes towards public health and services, service access, Chinese, Vietnamese

Research aim:

This paper investigates the relationships of elderly Chinese and Vietnamese migrants with medicines, general practitioners and pharmacists, and how these relationships influence their awareness and attitudes of the home medicines review (HMR) program.

Results/Conclusion:

Confusion about medications and an intention to have a HMR were pronounced among all participants although none of them had heard of the program before participating in the focus groups. Respondents reported difficulties locating a pharmacist who spoke their native language, which contributed to an increased unmet need for medicine information. The Chinese group additionally complained about a lack of support from their general practitioners in relation to their medicine concerns and was adamant that they would prefer to have a HMR without the involvement of their general practitioner.

Implications:

Our results indicate a distinct HMR need but not use among elderly Chinese and Vietnamese eligible patients with poor English skills. Home medicines review service use and perceived medication problems are likely to improve with an increasing availability of bilingual and culturally sensitive health care providers.

Cultural Group(s):

Chinese, Vietnamese

Location of study:

Age group:

Elderly (not further defined)

Number included in study:

17

Type of participants:

1 focus group with Vietnamese, 1 focus group with Chinese HMR eligible patients who had never received a HMR

Research approach:

Qualitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Home Medicines Review (HMR)

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: