

Comprehension and Use of Patient Information Leaflets in a Non-governmental Organization in the City of Asuncion in October 2020 [†]

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Abstract: Patient Information Leaflets (PILs) are an inherent element of medicine. The reading and comprehension are important to guarantee responsible and safe use. To understand the usefulness of the information contained in the PILs, factors such as educational level, age, area of residence, and language, among others, must be considered. A Pilot study was carried out to evaluate the use and level of comprehension of the leaflets in a non-governmental organization in Asunción in October 2020. A descriptive observational study was carried out with a non-probabilistic sampling of 58 participants aged 33 ± 12 years. A survey was undertaken evaluating variables such as age, sex, communication channels, literal comprehension, reorganization of information, inferential comprehension, critical reading, an evaluative judgment, and reading comprehension. 79.31% indicated the doctor's clinic as the main means of finding drug information. The most sought-after topics in leaflets are instructions for use, adverse reactions, and dosage. 31.03% of the participants, the majority with a higher level of training, fully understand the information provided in the leaflets. The results indicate that socialization is required in different sectors of society regarding the importance of reading and understanding the leaflets.

Keywords: leaflets; reading comprehension; level of education.

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Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.