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Online Appendix 3: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PHARMACISTS

DEVELOPMENT OF REFERRAL PATHWAYS OF PROGRESSIVE DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISORDERS FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS

Instructions

- Please answer all the questions
- Tick the relevant block except where specific information is required.

Section A: Demographic information

1. **Gender** (for statistical purposes only)

   Female: □ Male: □ Other: □ Prefer not to answer: □

2. **Race** (for statistical purposes only)

   Black: □ White: □ Indian: □ Coloured: □ Asian: □

   Other (please specify) □ : _____ Prefer not to answer: □

3. **Age** (for statistical purposes only)

   Under 30: □ 30 - 39: □ 40 - 49: □ 50 - 59: □ 60 and above: □

4. **Are you a community pharmacist?**

   Yes: □ No: □ Part-time/Locum: □

5. **Which province are you currently working in?**

   Eastern Cape: □ Free State: □ Gauteng: □ KwaZulu-Natal: □ Limpopo: □

   Mpumalanga: □ Northern Cape: □ Northwest: □ Western Cape □ Outside South Africa: □

6. **How long have you been practicing as a community pharmacist (Years)?**

Under 2: □ 3 – 5: □ 6 – 10: □ 11 - 20: □ 21 – 30: □

31 and above: □

7. **Which University did you obtain your under-graduate qualification?**

NMU: □ Wits: □ NWU: □ UKZN: □ SMU/MEDUNSA: □

UWC: □ UL: □ TUT: □ Rhodes: □

Other (please specify) □ _____ Outside South Africa: □

8. **Which year did you obtain your under-graduate qualification?**

_____

9. **Do you have a post-graduate qualification?**

Yes: □ No: □

Specify if Yes: _____

Section B: Practice

Progressive degenerative joint disorders are musculoskeletal disorders affecting the joints whereby there is irreversible loss of articular cartilage, followed by joint pain and dysfunction, they include osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis and gout.

1. **Are you familiar with progressive degenerative joint disorders?**

Yes: □ No: □ somewhat: □

2. **Which progressive degenerative joint disorders do you encounter the most?** (you may select more than one)

Osteoarthritis: □ None/not sure: □ Other (please specify):

_____□

3. **Is there a guideline that you use when managing patients with progressive degenerative joint disorders?**

   Yes: □ No: □

   Specify if Yes: _____

4. **Which medicine do you dispense the most for patients with progressive degenerative joint disorders? (not prescribed by a doctor, but either recommended by the pharmacist, other HCP or requested by the patient)**

   NSAIDs: □ Paracetamol: □ Combination products (NSAID/Opioid/Paracetamol): □

   Topical Analgesics: □ Muscle relaxants: □ Vitamins and Minerals: □

   Other (please specify): _____□

5. **If you notice that a patient continuously purchases a certain item for progressive degenerative joint disorders, what is your next step to assist the patient?**

   _____

6. **Which medicine(s) is/are prescribed the most for patients with progressive degenerative joint disorders?**

   _____

7. **What counselling do you provide for patients with progressive degenerative joint disorders?**

   _____

8. **Is there any follow-up, tracking or continued pharmaceutical care that you provide?**

   Yes: □ No: □

Describe if Yes: _____

9. Does the patient inform you that the medicine they have been using is not working/helping?

Yes, most of the time: □ Yes, some of the time: □ No: □

10. Once the patient informs you that the medicine they have been using is not working, what is your next step for patients with progressive degenerative joint disorders?

_____

11. Do you refer patients to any of the following practitioner, if yes, how often?

Yes (kindly complete below): □ No: □

	At least weekly	At least monthly	A few times a year	Never, but would consider	Never	uncertain
Physiotherapists	□	□	□	□	□	□
Occupational Therapists	□	□	□	□	□	□
Acupuncturists	□	□	□	□	□	□
Chiropractors	□	□	□	□	□	□
Osteopaths □	□	□	□	□	□	
Biokineticists	□	□	□	□	□	□
Podiatrist	□	□	□	□	□	□
Medical Doctor	□	□	□	□	□	□
Other (please specify):	□	□	□	□	□	□

_____

12. What is the most common reason for referring your patients to any of the above healthcare practitioners?

_____

13. Are you familiar with the role that the above healthcare practitioners play in the management of progressive degenerative joint disorders?

Yes, I know their role: □ Yes, I know most of their role: □ Yes I know some: □

No, I don't know their role: □

14. Which type of musculoskeletal conditions do you refer to the following practitioners?

	Condition(s)
Physiotherapists	_____
Occupational Therapists	_____
Acupuncturists	_____
Chiropractors	_____
Osteopaths	_____
Biokineticists	_____
Podiatrist	_____
Medical Doctor	_____

15. On average, what is the number of patients with musculoskeletal conditions that you refer to the above-mentioned healthcare practitioners other than a medical doctor, in the past 12 months?

_____

16. Do you have the contact details of any of the above healthcare practitioners?

Yes: □ No: □

Specify which practitioners if Yes: _____

17. Has any of your patients mentioned that they are/have been treated by any of the above healthcare practitioners, other than a medical doctor?

Yes: □ No: □

18. Are you willing to form part of a cohort on the developed referral guide?

Yes: □ No: □