

**POSTER SESSION 2 ABSTRACTS**  
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**Chronic Disease**  
**PS2-21**

**Effect of Community Clinical Pharmacist Consultation on Quality  
of Treatment and Clinical Outcomes**

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**Background:** Attention to patient safety has been elevated since the Institute of Medicine issued its landmark report, "To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System" in 1999. Actively involving pharmacists in medication-use processes and ensuring pharmacists are available for consultations was stated as one of the important steps toward achieving sustainable improvements in patient safety, according to the National Quality Forum Conference, Safe Practices for Better Healthcare; May, 2003; Los Angeles, California. In Israel, community clinical pharmacist's consultation is practically unavailable to the majority of the population. Hashfela district in Maccabi Healthcare Services is one of the first community healthcare organizations to include clinical pharmacists in leading projects to improve quality of treatment through consultation directed primarily to the healthcare practitioner. The understanding of the importance of such a service to patients brought us to evaluate the impact of clinical pharmacist consultation to patients and their family physician on quality of treatment and clinical outcomes.

**Methods:** Sixty two patients responded to an invitation to a "periodic reevaluation" of their drug therapy, sent by their family physician. The clinical pharmacist consultation was based on a comprehensive review of drug /food supplements /herbal medication use, taken at the visit, on the diagnosis/problem list given by the physician and on current laboratory results. Patient education included guidance to the correct use of their drugs, learning about their drug indications and goals of therapy in the area of blood pressure, dyslipidemia, diabetes and anticoagulation. Recommendations regarding quality of treatment and rational use of drugs were passed on and/or discussed separately with their family physician. Whenever a change in a drug was required and accepted by the family physician, patient was scheduled to an appointment with his doctor.

**Results & Conclusions:** Will be available at the time of the conference.