

Community Pharmacy Services in Malanje City, Angola: A Survey of Practices, Facilities, Equipment, and Staff

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Abstract

A community pharmacy, also known as a retail pharmacy, is the most common type of pharmacy that allows the public access to their medications and advice about their health. The conditions existing in the community pharmacy, as well as the qualification of the staff who work there, are fundamental for the compliance of good pharmacy practices. Objective: To assess the practices, facilities, equipment, and personnel of community pharmacies in the Municipality of Malanje. Methods: A cross-sectional observational study with a quantitative and qualitative approach. Through a simple random sampling technique, 20 pharmacies were selected from a universe of 73 reported by official authorities. Results: no pharmacist was acting in the local pharmacies, and their activity was supported by other professionals, particularly intermediate nursing technicians (57%). Most pharmacies were in the peri-urban area, and their functional areas, equipment, and utilities were not in accordance with Angolan law. In addition, the distribution of some drugs that are not over-the-counter was observed. Conclusion: community pharmacies in Malanje develop their activity in disregard of the law, constituting a considerable weakness that affects the observance of pharmacy service standards.

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Biography

He holds a degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences (2014 - 2018) in Higher Polytechnic Institute of Malanje (ISPM), current Polytechnic Institute of Rainha Njinga a Mbande University. It was one of the best finalists (Roll of Honor), in the Pharmaceutical Sciences course of its edition. As a result of this performance, he was initially invited to join the IS framework, as a Trainee Therapy in Curricular Units such as Pharmacology and Bludger Redox and Antioxidant Assistant.