

Special Issue

Pharmacists' Roles in the Identification, Prevention and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders

Message from the Guest Editor

Substance misuse involves hazardous or addictive use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, heroin), and prescription medications (e.g., opioids, gabapentinoids, benzodiazepines). The DSM-5 categorizes these as substance use disorders (addictions) and substance-induced disorders (intoxication/withdrawal). Substance abuse contributes to significant morbidity and mortality, worsening conditions like HIV, hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, and respiratory disease. It also affects workplaces through reduced productivity, absenteeism, and safety risks. Prescription drug misuse is widespread, and dependence can be difficult to identify and manage. Pharmacists play a key role in prevention, education, and treatment. Their expertise enables them to identify substance use disorders, counsel patients, and ensure safe medication distribution. They can improve treatment access and outcomes across community, secondary, and primary care settings. We invite submissions on pharmacists' approaches to addressing substance use disorders, including original research, reviews, brief reports, and trainee projects.

Guest Editor

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