Clinical pharmacy in Egypt
Part (I)

Development of the teaching curricula of clinical pharmacy in universities of Egypt
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Editorial Article

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Review

Clinical pharmacy is "a health science discipline in which pharmacists provide patient care that optimizes medication therapy and promotes health, wellness, and disease prevention."[1]

Clinical pharmacy is the specialty that has been developed in USA since 1967[2] but in Egypt, in the last 30 years ago. This article aims to give a glimpse on the history of the clinical pharmacy evolution and development in both Education and practice. To demonstrate the Era before the introduction of clinical pharmacy in the curriculum of the pharmacy faculties in Egypt. Also explain the factors that lead to the evolution of clinical pharmacy in Egypt after its appearance in USA in 1967.

"Teaching clinical pharmacy began in the faculty of pharmacy at Tanta University in 1980 by a group of visiting professors from the United States, as they gave lectures and trained some of staff faculty on this new branch in pharmaceutical education. They stayed in Egypt for 3 month and longer "said professor Dr. Abdel Hameed Abdullah El Sayed El Shamy[Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutics the Department of Industrial Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Ain Shams University] and one of the staff who was trained by the American professors, in Tanta University.

Faculty of pharmacy, Ain Shams University, was established in 1994 on the same educational principles and regulations of faculty of pharmacy, Tanta University which mainly was based on the clinical implementation in teaching curricula of pharmaceutical sciences which is still in use till now.

Table 1: Presenting the curricula of clinical pharmacy in the faculty of pharmacy, Ain Shams university.[3]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year/level</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>code</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-pharmacy year  – Second term / 100</td>
<td>Anatomy and Histology</td>
<td>152/M</td>
<td>3/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second professional year- second term/ 300</td>
<td>Pharmacy Administration</td>
<td>362/2</td>
<td>1/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third professional year- first semester/400</td>
<td>Pathophysiology</td>
<td>471/M</td>
<td>2/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third professional year- 2nd term/400</td>
<td>Clinical pharmacy</td>
<td>452/2</td>
<td>3/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third professional year- 2nd term/400</td>
<td>Pharmacokinetics</td>
<td>462/2</td>
<td>3/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth professional year first semester/500</td>
<td>First Aid</td>
<td>581/2</td>
<td>1hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Professional year First Semester/500</td>
<td>Clinical pharmacy</td>
<td>511/2</td>
<td>3/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth professional year/F irst term/500</td>
<td>Pharmacy Practice</td>
<td>522/2</td>
<td>3/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth professional year/Second term/500</td>
<td>Clinical Pharmacy Practice</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>3/week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clinical pharmacy department was established in many governmental faculties of pharmacy (e.g. Cairo University, Helwan University, Alexandria University) and private faculties of pharmacy (e.g. German University) all over Egypt nearly in 2005. Also many paid educational programs were held in faculties of pharmacy which are specialized in education of clinical pharmacy.

Recently, in Faculty of pharmacy, Ain Shams University, education of clinical pharmacy received the lion's share in the education process as follow:

1. Clinical pharmacy course in the curricula of undergraduate.
2- Clinical pharmacy course for postgraduate in the clinical pharmacy (Diploma, Master and PhD).
3- Specializing training summer courses in clinical pharmacy for 2-3 months.
4- Missions to different faculties of pharmacy all over the world to become more specialized in clinical pharmacy.

Hosting of some professors from faculties of medicine and pharmacy all over the national and international levels in the clinical pharmacy studies to be updated of all recent information in this field.

References

1. Pharmacotherapy 2008;28(6):816–817), his definition was written and approved by the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Board of Regents on April 8, T 2005.


3. Program specialty of clinical pharmacy department, Faculty of pharmacy, Ain shams University http://pharm.shams.edu.eg/quality%20assurance%20unit /Program%20handbook%202009-2010/Departments/Clinical%20Pharmacy%20Specs%202009-2010.pdf

AUTHORS’ CONTRIBUTIONS
Authors contributed equally to all aspects of the study.

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.