



## DRUG UTILIZATION STUDY IN GERIATRIC PATIENTS VISITING THE OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT IN TERTIARY CARE RURAL HOSPITAL

### Pharmacology

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### ABSTRACT

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**Aim & Objective:** The study aimed to evaluate the disease pattern, drugs used & the prescribing patterns to the geriatric patients at rural hospital.

**Materials and Methods:** A total of 300 patients were enrolled in the prospective, cross sectional study. The demographic details, drugs used condition for which the drugs were prescribed and other related factors; names by which they were prescribed, use of fixed dose combinations were recorded and subjected to analysis.

**Observation and Results:** Enrolled patients belonged to the age between 65 to 74 years, who presented with cardiovascular (21.22%) followed by musculoskeletal conditions (17.44%). Medicines were mostly prescribed by brand names 72.11%, Ranitidine was most frequently prescribed followed by Aceclofenac. About 20.35% were prescribed as FDCs for ex; Aceclofenac + Paracetamol was most commonly prescribed FDC followed by Amoxicillin + Clavulanic Acid.

**Conclusion:** Cautious use of medicines in geriatric patients is essential which can be provided by rational prescribing.

### KEYWORDS

Geriatric patients, drug utilization pattern, Generic name prescribing, FDCs, outpatient department