The Problem of Controlling Production and Dispensing of Substandard and Counterfeit Drugs

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Introduction

Falsified medicines present one of the major threats to public health and patient's safety, and their number is on the rise, so their control and elimination are one of the priority challenges of modern pharmacological industry and disease management. We should pay special attention to distinguishing "counterfeit" medicines and "substandard" ones, as they are not interchangeable.

Aim

To study the current data on the production counterfeit medicines and developing the ways of controlling them.

Materials and methods

Selection and analysis on the data-base on the use of falsified medicines in developed and developing countries.

Results

We have analyzed the available literature on the topic and determined that the problem is typical and urgent not only for the poor countries, but its roots are deep even in the prosperous Western countries. To be on the safe side the patient should follow a number of very simple rules.

Conclusion

In modern supply chains, medicines may change hands many times in many countries before gettting to the patient. The effects of inactive, even toxic, drugs can go unnoticed or be mistaken for the natural course of the underlying disease, deptiring the patient of the chance to be cured him.