

# BRIDGING THE GAP: PHARMACISTS' PREPAREDNESS IN CHEMOTHERAPY SIDE EFFECT MANAGEMENT

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## INTRODUCTION

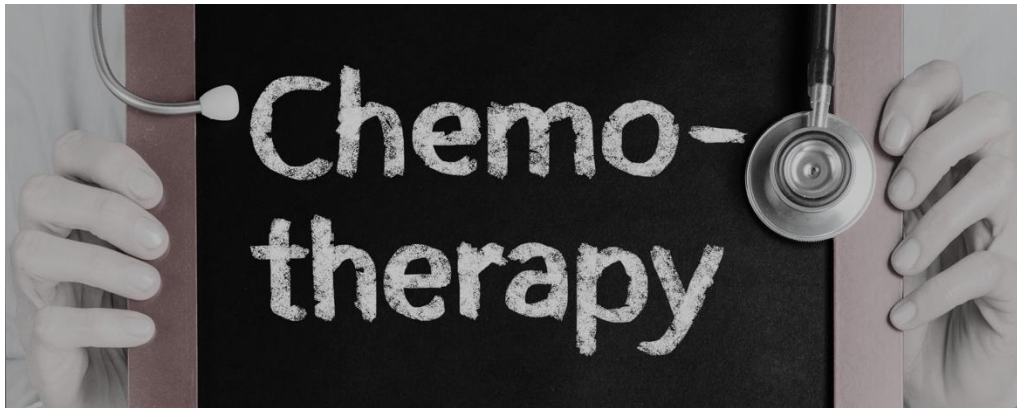
Chemotherapy’s significant side effects demand expert pharmacist management, yet their preparedness remains insufficiently explored.

## AIM

To evaluate pharmacists' knowledge and management skills concerning chemotherapy-related adverse effects and thereby propose the areas of improvement in cancer education.

## METHODOLOGY

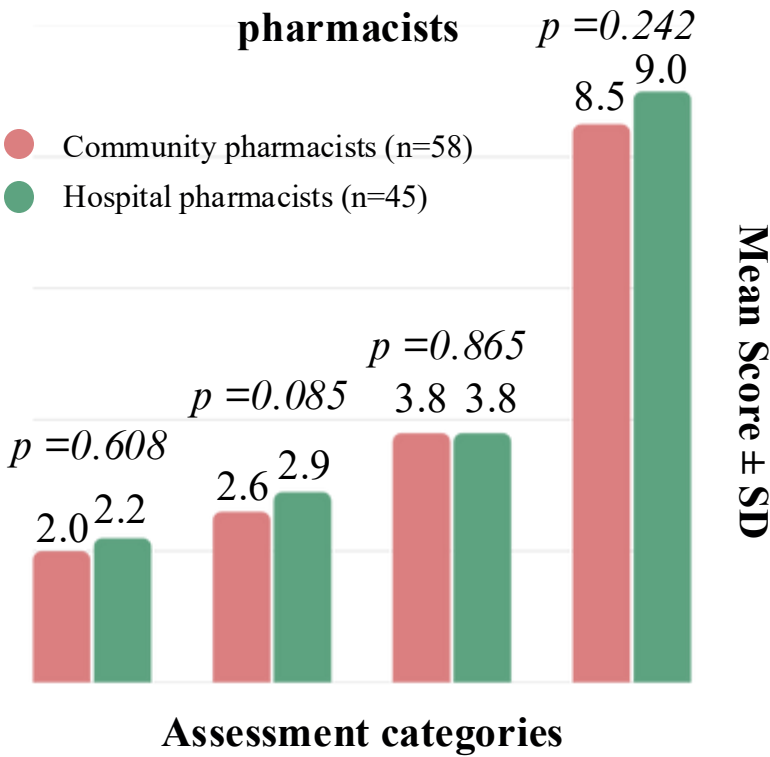
Cross-sectional survey. Assessed education, exposure to cancer therapies, and self-rated knowledge/competence Evaluated management of chemotherapy side effects



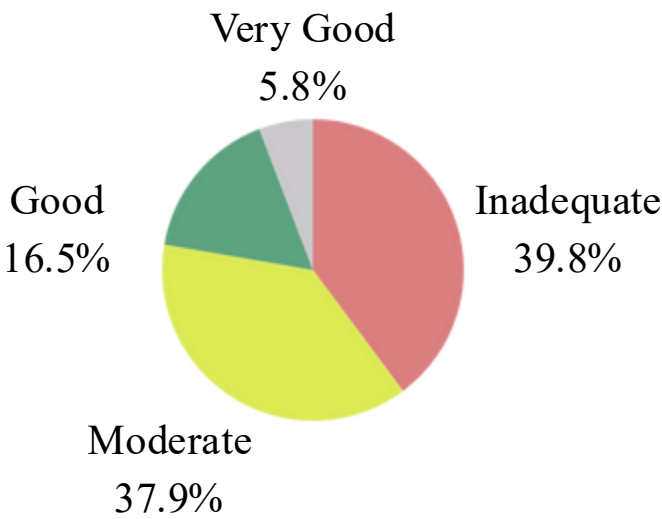
## RESULTS

- ▶ **39.8%** reported inadequate chemotherapy knowledge.
- ▶ **51.4%** felt insufficient competence in managing side effects.
- ▶ **100%** expressed desire for further education.
- ▶ No significant differences between community vs hospital pharmacists
- ▶ Major gaps in oncology training (58.3% had no training).

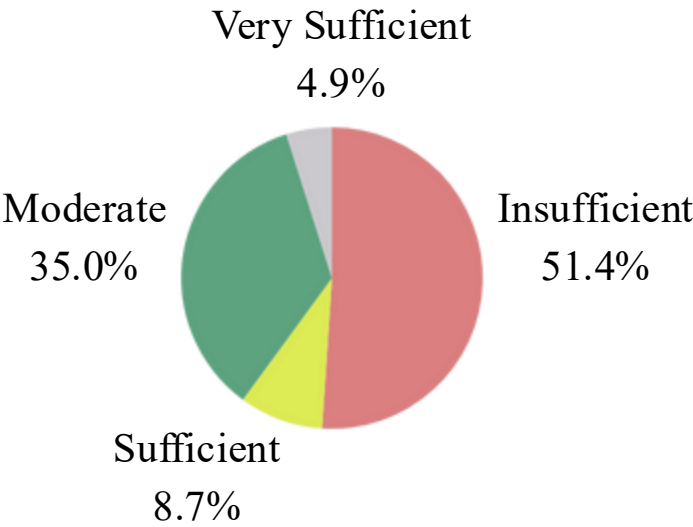
Comparison of knowledge and skills scores between community and hospital pharmacists



Self - assessment of knowledge about chemotherapy drugs (n=103)



Self - assessment of competence in managing chemotherapy side effects (n=103)



Distribution of correct responses to survey questions on side effects of chemotherapy and management of side effects

	Total (n = 103) n (%)	CP (n = 58) n (%)	HP (n = 45) n (%)	P
Chemotherapeutic and side effect	44 (42.7)	24 (41.7)	20 (44.4)	0.608
Managing side effects of chemotherapy	57 (55.3)	30 (51.7)	27 (59.1)	0.085
Advice to the patient on management of SE of chemotherapy	78 (75.7)	45 (77.9)	35 (77.3)	0.865

## CONCLUSION

Findings reveal significant gaps in pharmacists' knowledge and skills in managing chemotherapy side effects, highlighting the urgent need for accessible continuing oncology education.