



WHO Collaborating Centre  
for Pharmaceutical Pricing  
and Reimbursement Policies



# Adherence & Medication review

*Assoc. Prof. Mitja Kos, Ph.D., M.Pharm.*

Head, Chair of Social Pharmacy

University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Pharmacy,

Web: [www.ffa.uni-lj.si](http://www.ffa.uni-lj.si)

E-mail: [mitja.kos@ffa.uni-lj.si](mailto:mitja.kos@ffa.uni-lj.si)



Chairman, Pharmaceutical Care Network Europe (PCNE)

Web: [www.pcne.org](http://www.pcne.org)

# Pharmaceutical Care Network Europe

- Pharmaceutical care **researchers** in Europe
  - Established in 1994
- Aim:
  - stimulating **research** and **implementation** projects
  - organising **working conference** and a **symposium**

2018 Working Symposium in Fuengirola

*2nd-3rd February 2018*





# What is what?

Adherence

Concordance

Persistence

Compliance

Time to discontinuation



# Compliance

- The extent to which the patient's **behaviour matches** the prescriber's recommendations.

„Use according to the guidelines.“

„Doctor told me I need to...”



# Health care worker - patient

## Paternalistic approach vs partnership

Informed patients

Access to information: Internet....

Rights

...



# Compliance

- The extent to which the patient's behaviour matches the prescriber's recommendations.





# Adherence

- The extent to which the patient's behaviour matches **agreed** recommendations from the prescriber.



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# Concordance

- It is **an agreement** reached after negotiation between a patient and a healthcare professional that **respects the beliefs and wishes of the patient** in determining whether, when and how medicines are to be taken.



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# Persistence

- The duration of time from initiation to discontinuation of therapy.

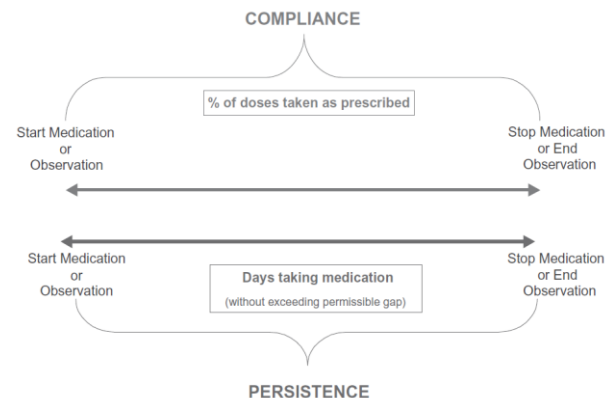


„Time to discontinuation“



# Medication adherence

- Can refer to both:
  - whether patients take their medications as prescribed (eg, twice daily),
  - whether they continue to take a prescribed medication.
- OR divided into 2 main concepts:
  - adherence: refers to **the intensity** of drug use during the duration of therapy,
  - persistence: persistence refers to the **overall duration** of drug therapy.





# Reasons for nonadherence

Categories of nonadherence	Examples
Health system	Poor provider-patient relationship, poor communication, lack of access to healthcare, lack of continuity of care
Condition	Asymptomatic disease (lack of physical cues), chronic conditions
Patient	Physical impairments (eg, vision problems), cognitive impairment, psychological/behavioral = > Knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and
Therapy	Complexity of regimen, adverse effects, lifestyle burden
Socioeconomic	Financial stress (cost of medication, copayment), low “health” literacy, poor social support

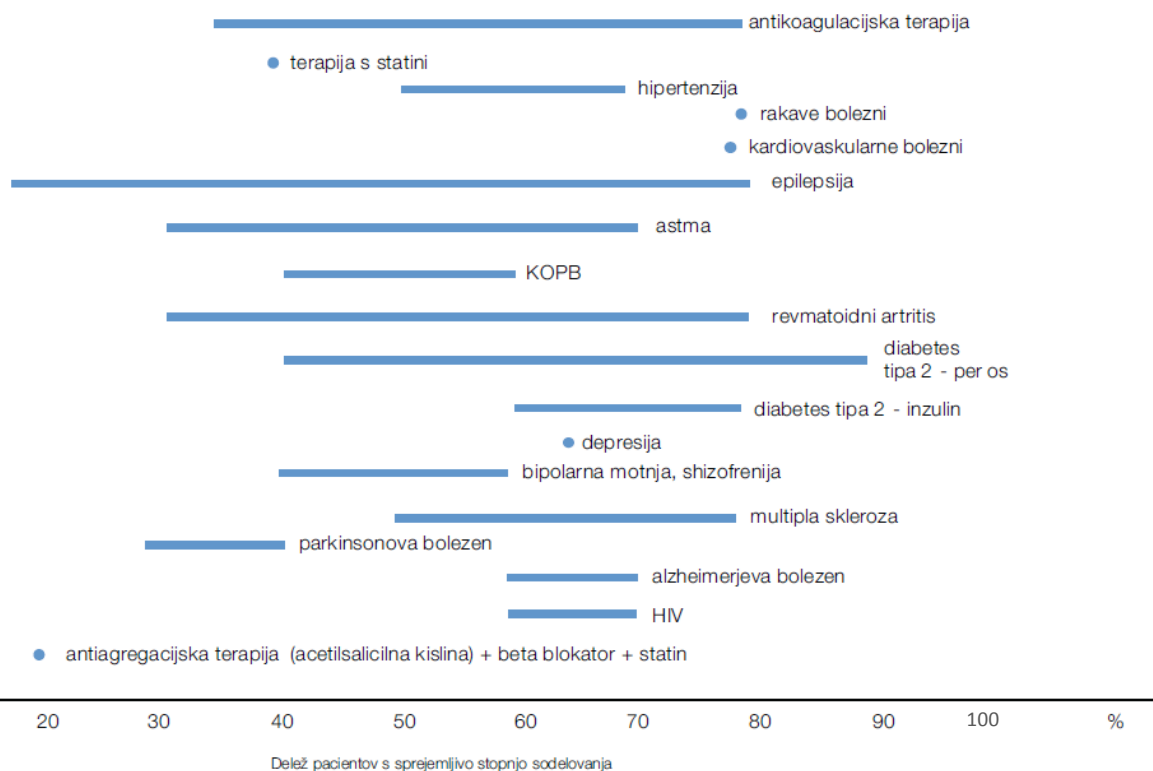


# Reasons for nonadherence

- Often multifactorial.
- Nonadherence to medications can be intentional or nonintentional.



# Overview of adherence



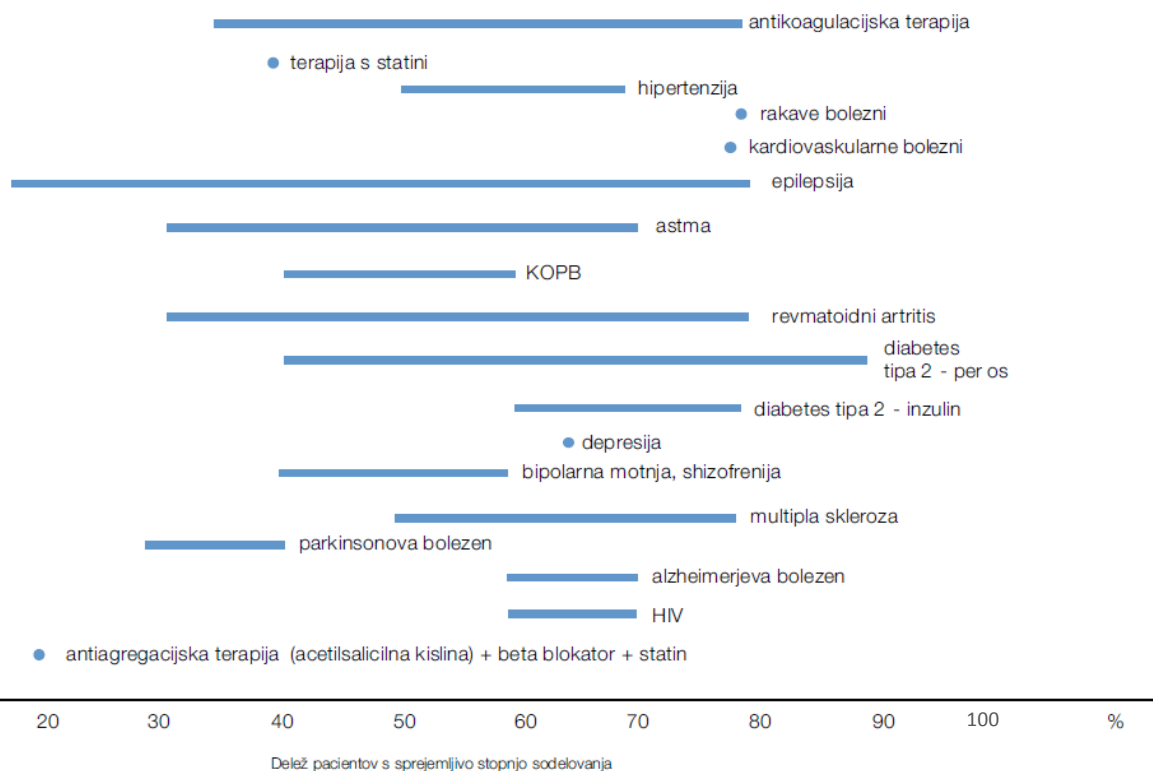
*Slika 1: Deleži ustrezno sodelujočih pacientov po različnih terapevtskih področjih (1, 6–28). Slika podaja pregled rezultatov raziskav, vendar podatki iz naslova različnih opredelitev sodelovanja in uporabljenih metod precej variirajo.*  
**Figure 1: Proportions of adherent patients across different therapeutic areas. The figure provides an overview of research results, but data vary considerably due to different definitions of medication adherence and methods used.**



# Overview of adherence

Definition of nonadherent patients?

Methods?



*Slika 1: Deleži ustrezno sodelujočih pacientov po različnih terapevtskih področjih (1, 6–28). Slika podaja pregled rezultatov raziskav, vendar podatki iz naslova različnih opredelitev sodelovanja in uporabljenih metod precej variirajo.*

*Figure 1: Proportions of adherent patients across different therapeutic areas. The figure provides an overview of research results, but data vary considerably due to different definitions of medication adherence and methods used.*



# Methods of measuring adherence

Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>Direct methods</b>		
Directly observed therapy by a health care worker's assessment	Simple, cheap, requires no structured tool	Subjective, inaccurate: estimates affected by doctor-patient relationship, patients can hide pills in the
Drug level monitoring (measurement of the level of medicine or metabolite or biologic marker in blood)	Objective	Expensive, requires lab, invasive, unknown timing of doses; PK profile of population needed, "white coat" adherence prior to test
<b>Indirect methods</b>		
Patient questionnaires, patient self-report	Simple, inexpensive, qualitative assessment possible, the most useful method in the clinical setting	Subjective, inaccurate: poor patient recall - susceptible to errors with increases in time between visits, results are easily distorted by the patient
Patient diaries	Help to correct for poor recall	Easily altered by the patient
Pill counts	Objective, quantifiable, easy to perform	Data easily altered by patient (e.g. pill dumping, pill sharing)
Rates of prescription refills	Objective, easy to obtain	Pill dumping, pill sharing; good records needed; a prescription refill is not equivalent to ingestion of medication
Electronic medication monitoring	Objective, precise, results are easily quantified, tracks patterns of taking medication	Expensive, Awareness raised due to special device for monitoring can influence behaviour
Assessment of the patient's clinical response	Simple, generally easy to perform	Factors other than medication adherence can affect clinical response



# Interventions

Technical  
solutions

e.g. lower number of  
dosis per day, medicine

Education

e.g. understanding of  
the disease

Influencing  
behaviour

e.g. reminders,  
special containers,  
motivational  
interviews

Social support

e.g. inclusion of family  
members, lowering  
stigma

Complex interventions



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# Drug related problems, PCNE 1999

An event or circumstance involving drug therapy that actually or potentially interferes with desired health outcomes.



## The Problems

Primary Domain	Code V8.0	Problem
<b>1. Treatment effectiveness</b> There is a (potential) problem with the (lack of) effect of the pharmacotherapy	<b>P1.1</b> <b>P1.2</b> <b>P1.3</b>	No effect of drug treatment/ therapy failure Effect of drug treatment not optimal Untreated symptoms or indication
<b>2. Treatment safety</b> Patient suffers, or could suffer, from an adverse drug event	<b>P2.1</b>	Adverse drug event (possibly) occurring
<b>3. Others</b>	<b>P3.1</b>	Problem with cost-effectiveness of the treatment
	<b>P3.2</b>	Unnecessary drug-treatment
	<b>P3.3</b>	<i>Unclear problem/complaint. Further clarification necessary (please use as escape only)</i>



Potential Problem



Manifest Problem

## The Causes (including possible causes for potential problems)

N.B. One problem can have more causes

	Primary Domain	Code V8.0	Cause
Prescribing	<b>1. Drug selection</b> The cause of the (potential) DRP is related to the selection of the drug	<b>C1.1</b> Inappropriate drug according to guidelines/formulary <b>C1.2</b> Inappropriate drug (within guidelines but otherwise contra-indicated) <b>C1.3</b> No indication for drug <b>C1.4</b> Inappropriate combination of drugs or drugs and herbal medication <b>C1.5</b> Inappropriate duplication of therapeutic group or active ingredient <b>C1.6</b> No drug treatment in spite of existing indication <b>C1.7</b> Too many drugs prescribed for indication	
	<b>2. Drug form</b> The cause of the DRP is related to the selection of the drug form	<b>C2.1</b>	Inappropriate drug form (for this patient)
	<b>3. Dose selection</b> The cause of the DRP is related to the selection of the dose or dosage	<b>C3.1</b> Drug dose too low <b>C3.2</b> Drug dose too high <b>C3.3</b> Dosage regimen not frequent enough <b>C3.4</b> Dosage regimen too frequent <b>C3.5</b> Dose timing instructions wrong, unclear or missing	
	<b>4. Treatment duration</b> The cause of the DRP is related to the duration of treatment	<b>C4.1</b> Duration of treatment too short <b>C4.2</b> Duration of treatment too long	
	<b>5. Dispensing</b> The cause of the DRP is related to the logistics of the prescribing and dispensing process	<b>C5.1</b>	Prescribed drug not available
		<b>C5.2</b>	Necessary information not provided
		<b>C5.3</b>	Wrong drug, strength or dosage advised (OTC)
		<b>C5.4</b>	Wrong drug or strength dispensed

## The Causes (including possible causes for potential problems)

N.B. One problem can have more causes

Use	<b>6. Drug use process</b> The cause of the DRP is related to the way the patient gets the drug administered by a health professional or carer, despite proper dosage instructions (on the label)	<b>C6.1</b>	Inappropriate timing of administration and/or dosing intervals
		<b>C6.2</b>	Drug under-administered
		<b>C6.3</b>	Drug over-administered
		<b>C6.4</b>	Drug not administered at all
		<b>C6.5</b>	Wrong drug administered
	<b>7. Patient related</b> The cause of the DRP is related to the patient and his behaviour (intentional or non-intentional)	<b>C7.1</b>	Patient uses/takes less drug than prescribed or does not take the drug at all
		<b>C7.2</b>	Patient uses/takes more drug than prescribed
		<b>C7.3</b>	Patient abuses drug (unregulated overuse)
		<b>C7.4</b>	Patient uses unnecessary drug
		<b>C7.5</b>	Patient takes food that interacts
		<b>C7.6</b>	Patient stores drug inappropriately
		<b>C7.7</b>	Inappropriate timing or dosing intervals
		<b>C7.8</b>	Patient administers/uses the drug in a wrong way
		<b>C7.9</b>	Patient unable to use drug/form as directed
	<b>8. Other</b>	<b>C8.1</b>	No or inappropriate outcome monitoring (incl. TDM)
		<b>C8.2</b>	Other cause; specify
		<b>C8.3</b>	No obvious cause



## The Planned Interventions

N.B. One problem can lead to more interventions

<b>Primary Domain</b>	<b>Code V8.0</b>	<b>Intervention</b>
<b>No intervention</b>	<b>I0.1</b>	No Intervention
<b>1. At prescriber level</b>	<b>I1.1</b>	Prescriber informed only
	<b>I1.2</b>	Prescriber asked for information
	<b>I1.3</b>	Intervention proposed to prescriber
	<b>I1.4</b>	Intervention discussed with prescriber
<b>2. At patient level</b>	<b>I2.1</b>	Patient (drug) counselling
	<b>I2.2</b>	Written information provided (only)
	<b>I2.3</b>	Patient referred to prescriber
	<b>I2.4</b>	Spoken to family member/caregiver
<b>3. At drug level</b>	<b>I3.1</b>	Drug changed to ....
	<b>I3.2</b>	Dosage changed to ....
	<b>I3.3</b>	Formulation changed to .....
	<b>I3.4</b>	Instructions for use changed to .....
	<b>I3.5</b>	Drug stopped
	<b>I3.6</b>	New drug started
<b>4. Other intervention or activity</b>	<b>I4.1</b>	Other intervention (specify)
	<b>I4.2</b>	Side effect reported to authorities



## Acceptance of the Intervention proposals

N.B. One level of acceptance per intervention proposal

Primary domain	Code V8.0	Implementation
<b>1. Intervention accepted</b> (by prescriber or patient)	<b>A1.1</b> <b>A1.2</b> <b>A1.3</b> <b>A1.4</b>	Intervention accepted and fully implemented Intervention accepted, partially implemented Intervention accepted but not implemented Intervention accepted, implementation unknown
<b>2. Intervention not accepted</b> (by prescriber or patient)	<b>A2.1</b> <b>A2.2</b> <b>A2.3</b> <b>A2.4</b>	Intervention not accepted: not feasible Intervention not accepted: no agreement Intervention not accepted: other reason (specify) Intervention not accepted: unknown reason
<b>3. Other</b> (no information on acceptance)	<b>A3.1</b> <b>A3.2</b>	Intervention proposed, acceptance unknown Intervention not proposed



# Cognitive pharmacist services





# Pharmaceutical Care

- Pharmaceutical Care is the pharmacist's contribution to the care of individuals in order to optimize medicines use and improve health outcomes. *PCNE 2013*



# PCNE definition

- ... is a framework limiting:
  - the **provider** of PhC to the pharmacist,
  - the **recipient** to the individual patient, and
  - the **subject** to the use of medicines
  
- describing specific services that should show measurable improvements in health outcomes.



Pharmaceutical care  
Clinical pharmacy  
Medicine optimisation  
Patient care  
Medicines management  
Medication review

...



# Medication review, PCNE 2016

Medication review is a structured evaluation of patient's medicines with the aim of optimizing medicines use and improving health outcomes. This entails detecting drug related problems and recommending interventions.



# Medication review, PCNE 2016

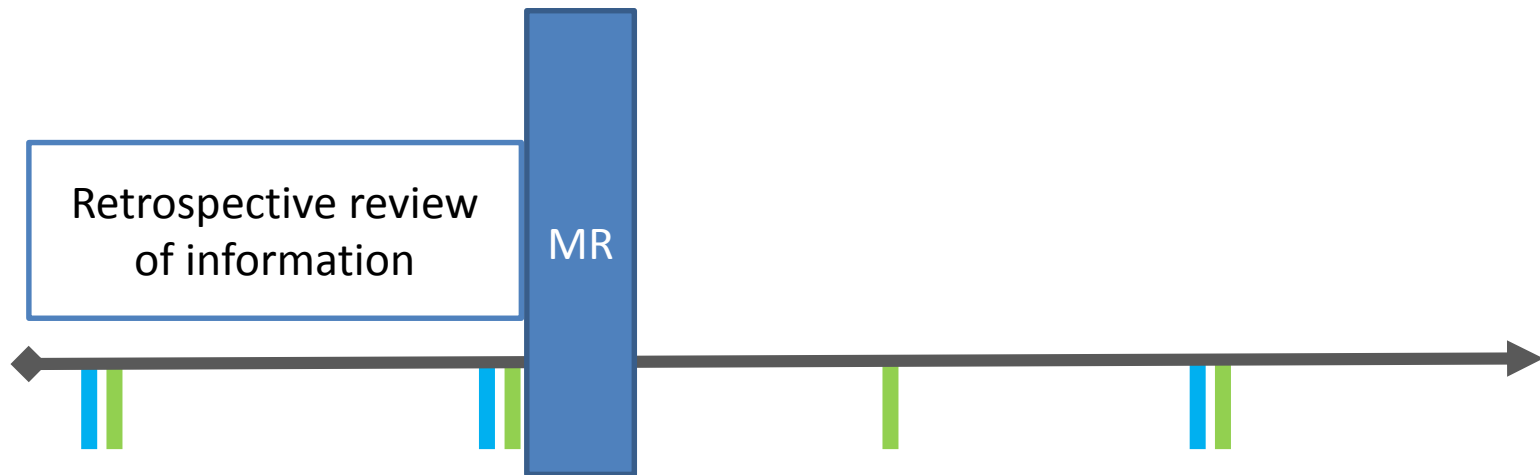
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# Retrospective review => Ph. Care

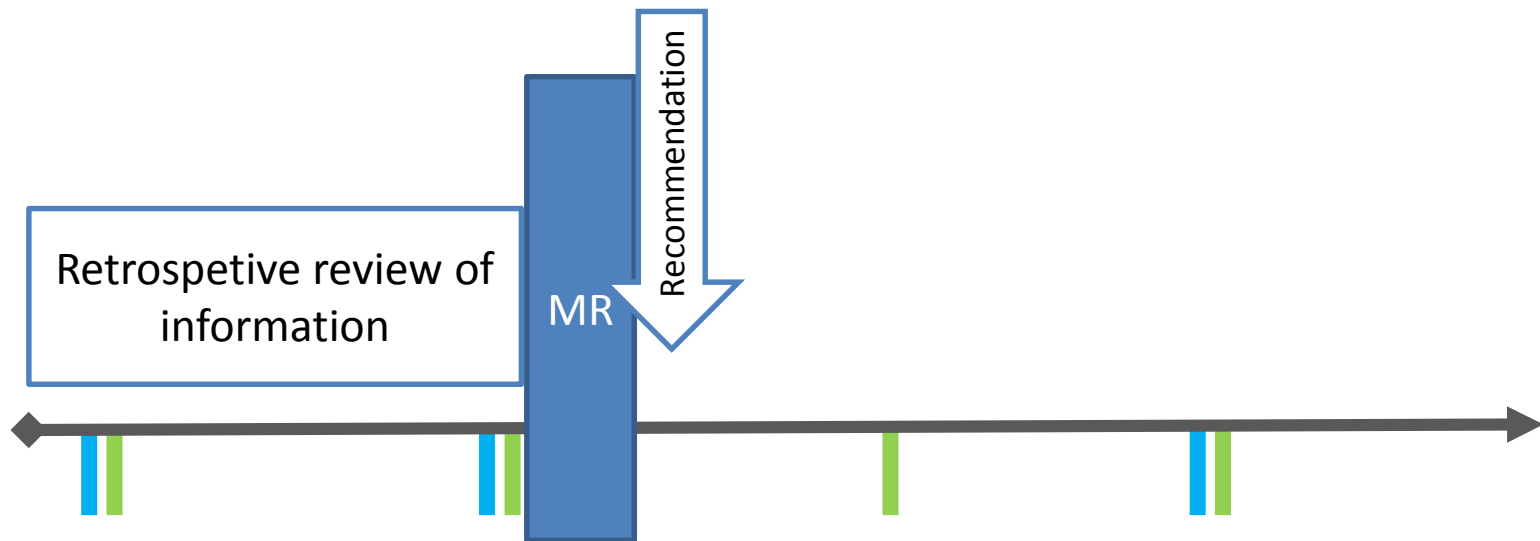




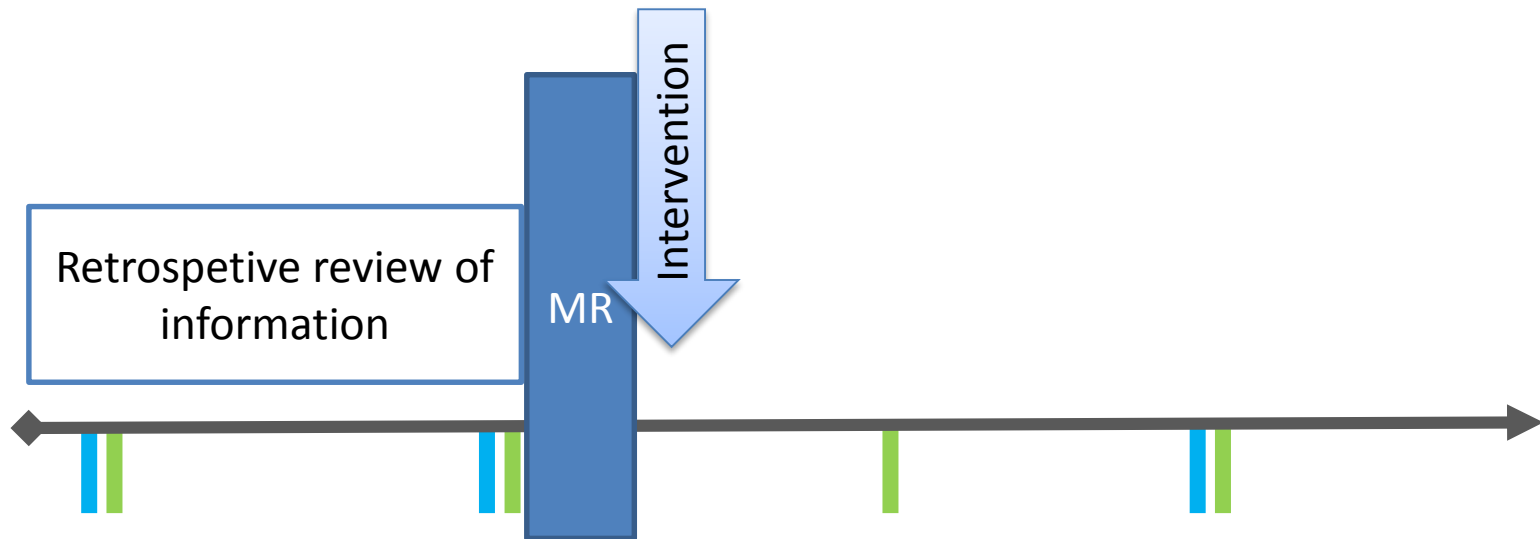
# Retrospective review => Ph. Care



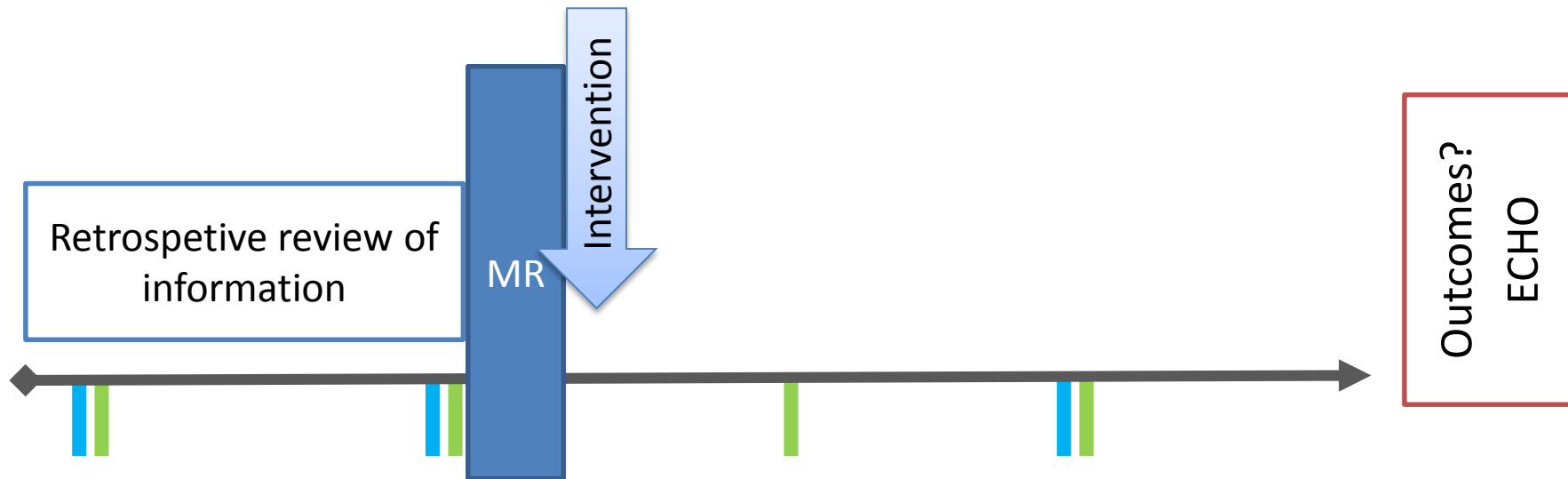
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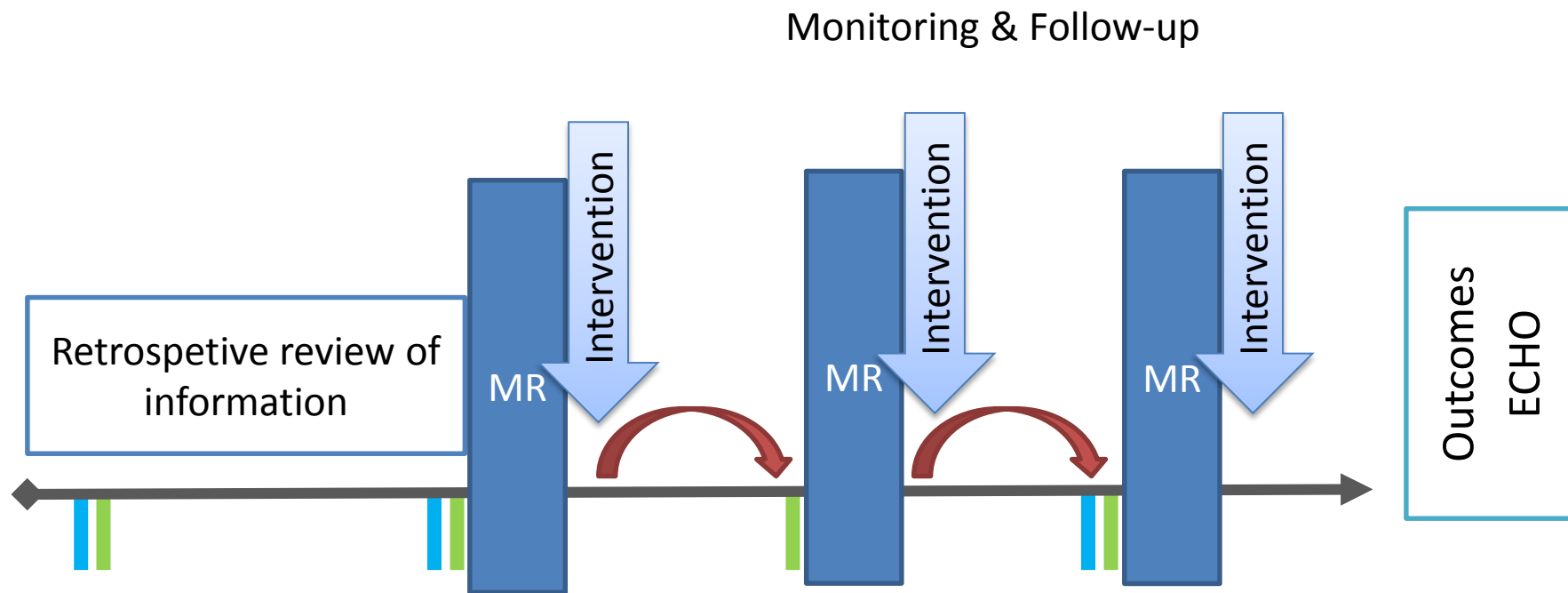
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# Retrospective review => Ph. Care







# Retrospective review => Ph. Care









# Types of medication review

Type of MR	Information available			
	Medication history	Patient interview	Clinical data	
Type 1: Simple MR	+			
Type 2: Intermediate MR				
Type 2a:	+	+		
Type 2b:	+		+	
Type 3: Advanced MR				
	+	+	+	



# Experience from Slovenia

- Medication use review
  - „Pregled uporabe zdravil“
  - Type 2a

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Type 1: Simple MR	+			
Type 2: Intermediate MR	Type 2a: +	+		
	Type 2b: +		+	
Type 3: Advanced MR	+	+	+	





- Advanced medication review
  - „Farmakoterapijski pregled“
  - Type 3



# Experience from Slovenia

## ■ Medication use review

- „Pregled uporabe zdravil“
- Type 2a
- Focus on patient
- M.Pharm.

Type of MR	Information available			
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Type 1: Simple MR	+			
Type 2: Intermediate MR	Type 2a: +	+		
	Type 2b: +		+	
Type 3: Advanced MR	+	+	+	

## ■ Advanced medication review

- „Farmakoterapijski pregled“
- Type 3
- Recommendations to physicians
- M.Pharm. & specialist in clinical or community pharmacy









# Experience from Slovenia

## ■ Medication use review

- „Pregled uporabe zdravil“
- Type 2a
- Focus on patient
- M.Pharm.
- Free or out of pocket

Type of MR	Information available			
	Medication history	Patient interview	Clinical data	
Type 1: Simple MR	+			
Type 2: Intermediate MR	Type 2a: +	+		
	Type 2b: +		+	
Type 3: Advanced MR	+	+	+	

## ■ Advanced medication review

- „Farmakoterapijski pregled“
- Type 3
- Recommendations to physicians
- M.Pharm. & specialist in clinical or community pharmacy
- Remunerated by Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia, since 2016



# Certification

- Slovene Chamber of Pharmacy
  - Certification of competencies
  - Courses: theory + practice with mentors
  - Continuing Professional Development
  - A special body „Skrbnik kompetenc“
    - Assuring quality: development, monitoring and upgrading of MR services

<http://www.lek-zbor.si/>



# Remuneration





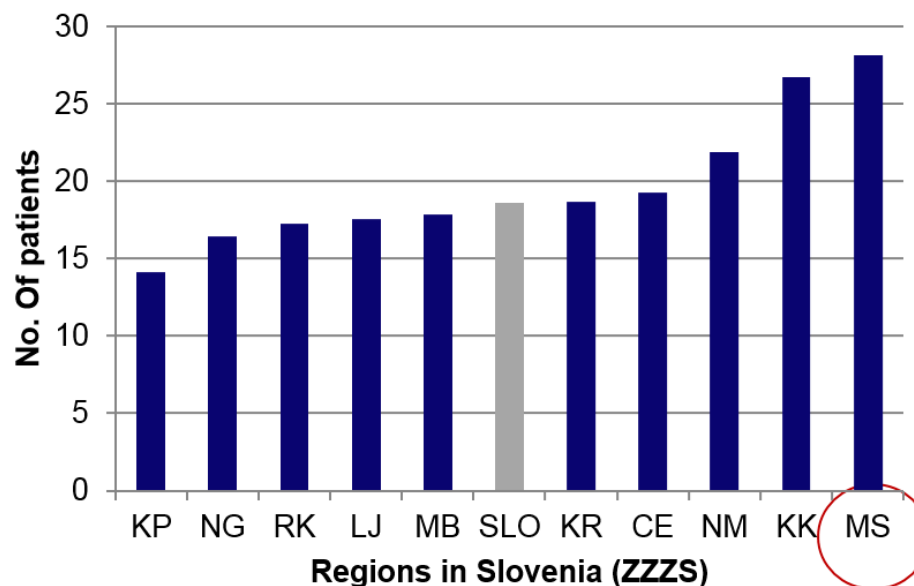
# Remuneration

- Several proposals of PhC services to the Health Council
- Education at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, CPDs...



# Remuneration

- Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia
- Pilot project in 2012, „economic crisis“



Average no. of patients per physicians that were prescribed 10 or more medicines



# Health Care Team Collaboration

*It will not work for the patient if the collaboration is not in place.*





# MR. Challenge & opportunity

*Pharmacy practice*  
*Academia: sci&edu*  
*System*

