

Community Pharmacy Policy and Procedures: Cosmetics Services

Yousef Ahmed Alomi*, 

BSc. Pharm, MSc. Clin Pharm, BCPS, BCNSP, DiBA, CDE
Critical care clinical pharmacists, TPN clinical pharmacist, Freelancer Business Planner, Content Editor, and Data Analyst, Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA.
Abeer Hussin Almasoudi, BSc. Pharm, BCPS., Director, Organizational Excellence, Ministry of Health Branch, Tabuk, SAUDI ARABIA.

Amani Abdullah Bahdailah, BSc. Pharm D, Msc. Clin Pharm, Pharmaceutical Care Services, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz University Hospital, Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA.

Khalid Abdullah Albalawi, Bsc. pharm, Ministry of Health Tabuk Branch, SAUDI ARABIA.

Ahood Musleh Alsenani, Pharm Technician, King Khalid Hospital, Tabuk Health Cluster, SAUDI ARABIA.

Correspondence:

Dr. Yousef Ahmed Alomi, BSc. Pharm, MSc. Clin Pharm, BCPS, BCNSP, DiBA, CDE
Critical care clinical pharmacists, TPN clinical pharmacist, Freelancer Business Planner, Content Editor, and Data Analyst, P.O.BOX 100, Riyadh-11392, Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA.

Phone no: +966504417712

E-mail: yalomi@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: To explore the Cosmetics policy in Community pharmacy practice as a new initiative in Saudi Arabia. **Methods:** It was a narrative review of Community pharmacy policy and the procedures of the Cosmetics system. Litterateur searched from various databases, including PubMed, Medline, and Google Scholar, about specific Cosmetics policies and procedures in Community pharmacy practice. The search period is from the 1960s until October 2021. The term is in English and includes narrative review, systemic review, Meta-analysis, and guidelines. All hospital or community Community pharmacy services are included in a search term. Besides, the national and international guidelines of general hospital practice are also included. The committee of Community Pharmacy Cosmetics formulated and consisted of various expert members. That includes clinical pharmacists, drug information pharmacists, and clinical Cosmetics specialists. The guidelines of the policy draft by one member and the second member were reviewed and corrected. The cosmetics specialist did the third revision. The topic emphasizes the competency of Community pharmacy Cosmetics policy and procedures. **Results:** The Community Pharmacy Cosmetics policy consisted of various items. That has included the Cosmetics committee, pharmacist responsible for Cosmetics, setup up strategic and annual plans for community Cosmetics services, assessments of Cosmetics, conducting of education and training courses, Cosmetics errors reporting system, Cosmetics adverse drug reaction reporting system, community pharmacy and set up quality management and key performance indicators with emphasis on the skin care, oral care, body care, Sun care, hair care, perfumes, and decorative cosmetics products. **Conclusion:** The Community Pharmacy Cosmetics policy is a new and updated initiative for service and patient care by community pharmaceutical care activities. The Cosmetics policy covers body, skin, hair, oral, and perfume products with medical or non-medical indications in the era of pharmacist involvement and care. It provides pharmacists with skills in Cosmetics care practice and chemotherapy services for pediatrics, adults, and elderly patients. Therefore, the cosmetics services policy and procedures are highly recommended for community pharmacy services in Saudi Arabia.

Keywords: Cosmetics, Services, Policy, Community pharmacy, Saudi Arabia.

INTRODUCTION

The community pharmacy is a reliable source of various medications, nutrition products, health care and medication devices, cosmetics, and natural or herbal products.^[1,2] The Community pharmacist provides multiple services to the patients, including dispensing all previous pharmaceutical products, counselling for all related products, monitoring effective medication, and preventing drug-related problems.^[1] Among these, cosmetics are one of the most utilized by customers.^[2-4] The customer's trust in the pharmacy, which is known for its convenience and reliability, makes it a preferred source for cosmetics.^[2,5,6] Cosmetics are divided into medical and nonmedical categories, used for both beauty and health. The pharmacist's understanding of all cosmetics, their specific indications, safety, and the best choice for each customer, as well as consideration of cosmetics and drug interaction, is crucial.^[3,4,7,8] Documenting cosmetics and adverse reactions is highly appreciated and necessary to prevent further cosmetics-related problems.^[9] Most of

the literature discussed pharmacy and cosmetics and discussed cosmetics utilizing them at a community pharmacy. Others discussed pharmacist knowledge of cosmetics.^[2-4,7,8,10] The authors, unfamiliar with the literature, discuss cosmetics policy at community pharmacies. The current review aims to illustrate the policy and procedures of cosmetics at community pharmacy practice, emphasizing the trustworthiness of the pharmacy as a source of cosmetics.

METHODS

It was a comprehensive narrative review of new views on patient and cosmetics policy and procedures at a community pharmacy. Litterateur searched databases about specific community pharmacy policy and procedures topics, including PubMed, Medline, and Google Scholar. The search period is from the 1960s until August 2024. The term is in English and includes narrative review, systemic review, Meta-analysis, and guidelines. The policy dates were limited to the last ten years only. All community pharmacy services are included in a search term.

The community pharmacy services included a point of sale at a community pharmacy, human resources, education and training, a compounding center, a community pharmacy store, and clinical community pharmacy services. Besides, the national and international guidelines of general community pharmacy practice policy and procedures in a community setting.^[11-18] That included the American Pharmaceutical Association, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP),^[11-13] and other literature.^[1-4,7,8,10,14-18] The Community Pharmacy Policy and Procedures committee was formulated and consisted of various expert members. That includes clinical community pharmacists, expert community pharmacists, and Cosmetics pharmacist specialists. The policy guidelines were drafted by one member, reviewed and corrected by the second member, and the third revision by the Cosmetics pharmacist specialist. The Cosmetics at community pharmacy consisted of various topics, including the Cosmetics committee, pharmacist responsible for Cosmetics, setup of a strategic and annual plan for community Cosmetics services, assessments of Cosmetics, conducting of education and training courses, Cosmetics errors reporting system, Cosmetics adverse drug reaction reporting system, community pharmacy and setup quality management and key performance indicators with emphasis on the skin care, oral care, body care, Sun care, hair care, perfumes, and decorative cosmetics products.

Search: (**community pharmacy [Title/Abstract]**) AND (**cosmetics [Title/Abstract]**) Filters: **Full text, Case Reports, Classical Article, Clinical Conference, Clinical Study, Clinical Trial, Clinical Trial, Phase I, Clinical Trial, Phase II, Clinical Trial, Phase III, Clinical Trial, Phase IV, Clinical Trial, Veterinary, Government Publication, Guideline, Meta-Analysis, Observational Study, Randomized Controlled Trial, Review, Systematic Review, Humans, English**

("community pharmacy"[Title/Abstract] AND "cosmetics"[Title/Abstract]) AND ((casereports[Filter] OR classicalarticle[Filter] OR clinicalconference[Filter] OR clinicalstudy[Filter] OR clinicaltrial[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphasei[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseii[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseiii[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseiv[Filter] OR veterinaryclinicaltrial[Filter] OR governmentpublication[Filter] OR guideline[Filter] OR meta-analysis[Filter] OR observationalstudy[Filter] OR randomizedcontrolledtrial[Filter] OR review[Filter] OR

systematicreview[Filter]) AND (fft[Filter]) AND (humans[Filter]) AND (english[Filter])) Search: (**community pharmacy [MeSH Terms]**) AND (**cosmetics [MeSH Terms]**) Filters: **Full text, Case Reports, Classical Article, Clinical Conference, Clinical Study, Clinical Trial, Clinical Trial, Phase I, Clinical Trial, Phase II, Clinical Trial, Phase III, Clinical Trial, Phase IV, Clinical Trial, Veterinary, Government Publication, Guideline, Meta-Analysis, Observational Study, Randomized Controlled Trial, Review, Systematic Review, Humans, English**

("pharmacies"[MeSH Terms] AND "cosmetics"[MeSH Terms]) AND ((casereports[Filter] OR classicalarticle[Filter] OR clinicalconference[Filter] OR clinicalstudy[Filter] OR clinicaltrial[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphasei[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseii[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseiii[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseiv[Filter] OR veterinaryclinicaltrial[Filter] OR governmentpublication[Filter] OR guideline[Filter] OR meta-analysis[Filter] OR observationalstudy[Filter] OR randomizedcontrolledtrial[Filter] OR review[Filter] OR systematicreview[Filter]) AND (fft[Filter]) AND (humans[Filter]) AND (english[Filter]))

Translations

community pharmacy [MeSH Terms]: "pharmacies"[MeSH Terms]

cosmetics [MeSH Terms]: "cosmetics"[MeSH Terms]

Search: (**community pharmacy [Text Word]**) AND (**cosmetics [Text Word]**) Filters: **Full text, Case Reports, Classical Article, Clinical Conference, Clinical Study, Clinical Trial, Clinical Trial, Phase I, Clinical Trial, Phase II, Clinical Trial, Phase III, Clinical Trial, Phase IV, Clinical Trial, Veterinary, Government Publication, Guideline, Meta-Analysis, Observational Study, Randomized Controlled Trial, Review, Systematic Review, Humans, English**

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systematicreview[Filter]) AND (fft[Filter]) AND (humans[Filter]) AND (english[Filter])) Search: (**retail pharmacy [Title/Abstract]**) AND (**cosmetics [Title/Abstract]**) Filters: **Full text, Case Reports, Classical Article, Clinical Conference, Clinical Study, Clinical Trial, Clinical Trial, Phase I, Clinical Trial, Phase II, Clinical Trial, Phase III, Clinical Trial, Phase IV, Clinical Trial, Veterinary, Government Publication, Guideline, Meta-Analysis, Observational Study, Randomized Controlled Trial, Review, Systematic Review, Humans, English**

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(("retail"[All Fields] OR "retailed"[All Fields] OR "retailer"[All Fields] OR "retailers"[All Fields] OR "retailing"[All Fields] OR "retails"[All Fields]) AND ("pharmacy"[MeSH Terms] OR "pharmacies"[MeSH Terms]) AND "cosmetics"[MeSH Terms]) AND ((casereports[Filter] OR classicalarticle[Filter] OR clinicalconference[Filter] OR clinicalstudy[Filter] OR clinicaltrial[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphasei[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseii[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseiii[Filter] OR clinicaltrialphaseiv[Filter] OR veterinaryclinicaltrial[Filter] OR governmentpublication[Filter] OR guideline[Filter] OR meta-analysis[Filter] OR observationalstudy[Filter] OR randomizedcontrolledtrial[Filter] OR review[Filter] OR systematicreview[Filter]) AND (fft[Filter]) AND (humans[Filter]) AND (english[Filter]))

Translations

retail: “retail”[All Fields] OR “retailed”[All Fields] OR “retailer”[All Fields] OR “retailer’s”[All Fields] OR “retailers”[All Fields] OR “retailing”[All Fields] OR “retails”[All Fields]

pharmacy [MeSH Terms]: “pharmacy”[MeSH Terms] OR “pharmacies”[MeSH Terms]

cosmetics [MeSH Terms]: “cosmetics”[MeSH Terms]

Search: (retail pharmacy [Text Word]) AND (cosmetics [Text Word]) Filters: Full text, Case Reports, Classical Article, Clinical Conference, Clinical Study, Clinical Trial, Clinical Trial, Phase I, Clinical Trial, Phase II, Clinical Trial, Phase III, Clinical Trial, Phase IV, Clinical Trial, Veterinary, Government Publication, Guideline, Meta-Analysis, Observational Study, Randomized Controlled Trial, Review, Systematic Review, Humans, English

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Translations

community pharmacist [MeSH Terms]: “pharmacists”[MeSH Terms]

cosmetics [MeSH Terms]: “cosmetics”[MeSH Terms]

Search: (community pharmacist [Text Word]) AND (cosmetics [Text Word]) Filters: Full text, Case Reports, Classical Article, Clinical Conference, Clinical Study, Clinical Trial, Clinical Trial, Phase I, Clinical Trial, Phase II, Clinical Trial, Phase III, Clinical Trial, Phase IV, Clinical Trial, Veterinary, Government Publication, Guideline, Meta-Analysis, Observational Study, Randomized Controlled Trial, Review, Systematic Review, Humans, English

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The pharmacist suggested following the policy and procedures for cosmetics in community pharmacies.

1. The community pharmacy assigns a pharmacist or technician responsible for providing community pharmacy cosmetics.
2. The community pharmacy should set up a strategic plan for cosmetics and an annual plan and revise it periodically.
3. The cosmetics pharmacist should assess cosmetics for community pharmacies based on the guidelines and publications.
4. The score level should be determined based on the assessment, plan accordingly, and make easements annually.
5. According to published local or international resources, all Community pharmacy staff should take education and training courses in Community pharmacy Cosmetics.
6. The community pharmacy should distribute pharmacist policy and procedures for community pharmacy cosmetics to all employees, and special training should be provided based on local procedures.
7. The cosmetics pharmacist is established based on specific published procedures and guidelines for skin care, oral care, body care, sun care, hair care, perfumes, and decorative cosmetics.
8. The pharmacist should follow these steps when dispensing cosmetics: The pharmacist should check the patient’s history of disease and the severity of the current condition before advising or dispensing herbal products.
9. The pharmacist should check the history of the Cosmetics and daily dose-related instructions.
10. The pharmacist should check about the last laboratory of vital signs, if possible, and another necessary test.
11. The pharmacist should check the allergy history of Cosmetics and the level of allergy severity.
12. Before dispensing, the pharmacist should search for evidence-based indications and approved SFDA indications for the herbal product, whether manufactured or non-manufacturer.

13. The pharmacist should check the patient's liver function and renal status before taking cosmetics.
14. The pharmacist should double-check pregnancy and lactation for women before ordering cosmetics.
15. The pharmacist should double-check any herbal and current disease interactions, indication and cosmetics interactions, laboratory and cosmetics interactions, and nutrition and cosmetics interactions.
16. The pharmacist might dispense the Cosmetics frequency and doses based on patient age, pediatric or adult, or orderly.
17. The pharmacist should make counseling based on international standards.
18. The pharmacist provides the counseling material about Cosmetics.
19. If there is any adverse Cosmetics reaction, the pharmacist should document it and send a copy to SFDA and the manufacturer.
20. According to published guidelines and procedures, the cosmetics pharmacist should set a quality management plan for community pharmacies and related key performance indicators.

CONCLUSION

The community pharmacy provides various services, including but not limited to regular medication, nutrients, herbal remedies, cosmetics, and medical or medication devices. Some cosmetics have medical claims, and others without medical claims. Cosmetic and patient safety is very critical because some contents have adverse effects on pregnancy and other cancer properties. The community pharmacist plays a vital role in preventing cosmetics-related morbidity and mortalities. Therefore, the cosmetic policy and procedures at community pharmacy services are essential for patient care and providing the best cosmetics and pharmaceutical care services locally and internationally.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

FUNDING

None.

CONSENT FOR PUBLICATIONS

Informed consent was obtained from all the participants.

ETHICAL APPROVAL


This research was exempted from research and ethical committee or an institutional review board (IRB) approval. <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-andpolicy/decision-charts-2018/index.html>

<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-andpolicy/decision-charts-2018/index.html>

ABBREVIATIONS

MOH: Ministry of Health; **KSA:** Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; **SFDA:** Saudi Food and Drug Authority; **EMEA:** European Medicine Agency; **WHO:** World Health Organization; **ASHP:** American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

ORCID ID

Yousef Ahmed Alomi  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1381-628X>

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