

Table 6 Drug prescription among respiratory patients in the baseline and impact surveys in the Syrian Arab Republic

Drug prescription	Baseline survey		Impact survey		% change	P-value
	Mean (SD)		Mean (SD)			
No. drugs prescribed per patient	2.70 (1.04)		2.30 (0.93)		-14.8	< 0.001
No. drugs per patient prescribed drugs	2.80 (0.93)		2.40 (0.76)		-14.3	< 0.001
No. antibiotics prescribed per patient prescribed drugs	1.11 (0.64)		0.74 (0.65)		-33.3	< 0.001
No. antibiotics per patient prescribed antibiotics	1.29 (0.49)		1.17 (0.40)		-9.3	< 0.001
	No.	%	No.	%		
No. patients prescribed drugs/ total no. patients	1747/1806	96.7	1038/1099	94.4	-2.4	< 0.01
No. patients prescribed antibiotics/ no. patients prescribed drugs	1511/1747	86.5	652/1038	62.8	-27.4	< 0.001
No. patients prescribed antibiotics/ no. patients prescribed drugs for:						
AURI	1057/1222	86.5	467/705	66.2	-23.5	< 0.001
ALRI	388/419	92.6	157/252	62.3	-32.7	< 0.001
CRD	59/93	63.4	23/69	33.3	-47.5	< 0.001
Other	7/13	53.8	5/12	41.7	-22.5	> 0.05
No. patients prescribed a specific medication/no. prescribed drugs:						
Any bronchodilator	131	7.5	75	7.2	-4.0	> 0.05
Inhaled β -agonist	25	1.4	41	3.9	+178.6	< 0.001
Any corticosteroid	55	3.1	35	3.4	+9.7	> 0.05
Inhaled corticosteroid	3	0.2	15	1.4	+600.0	< 0.001
Expectorant	518	29.7	257	24.8	-16.5	< 0.01
Antitussive	349	20.0	198	19.1	-4.5	> 0.05
Nasal decongestant	672	38.5	378	36.4	-5.5	> 0.05
Aspirin	40	2.3	9	0.9	-60.9	< 0.01
Paracetamol	1006	57.6	676	65.2	+13.2	< 0.001
Antihistamine	699	40.0	359	34.6	-13.5	< 0.01
Vitamins	61	3.5	17	1.6	-54.3	< 0.01

AURI = acute upper respiratory infection; ALRI = acute lower respiratory infection; CRD = chronic respiratory disease. SD = standard deviation.