

Variable	Hospital (DDS system)				χ^2 -value	P-value
	Al-Shifa (ward-stock) (n = 58)		European Gaza (unit-dose) (n = 29)			
	No.	%	No.	%		
<i>Drug shortages experienced in the last year</i>					8.2	0.084
Seldom	3	5.2	7	24.2		
Sometimes	44	75.9	21	72.4		
Often	11	18.9	1	3.4		
<i>Patients most affected by drug shortages</i>					15.9	0.001
Newly admitted cases	18	31.0	22	75.9		
Previously admitted cases	3	5.2	0	0.0		
Both	37	63.8	7	24.1		
<i>DDS requires extra staff</i>					3.6	0.301
Disagree	16	27.6	12	41.4		
Neither agree nor disagree	8	13.8	6	20.7		
Agree	34	58.6	11	37.9		
<i>Time needed for nurses to manage medications</i>					19.8	0.001
Long	40	69.0	0	0.0		
Normal	18	31.0	29	100.0		
<i>Method of dealing with unused drugs on the wards</i>					10.8	0.002
Returned to pharmacy	21	36.2	25	86.2		
Remain in ward	37	63.8	4	13.8		
<i>Perception of presence of high number of missing drugs (irrational use)</i>					15.3	0.002
Disagree	26	44.8	24	82.8		
Neither agree nor disagree	13	22.4	4	13.8		
Agree	19	32.8	1	3.4		
<i>Perception of rate of medication errors in hospital</i>					1.7	0.63
Low	32	55.0	9	31.0		
Very low	26	45.0	20	69.0		
<i>Report medication errors that may happen</i>					2.31	0.315
Never	49	83.0	21	72.5		
Seldom	9	17.0	8	27.5		
<i>Check the ward-stock drugs for expiry</i>					8.1	0.044
Yes	32	55.0	29	100.0		
No	26	45.0	0	0.0		
<i>Satisfied with the DDS and wish to continue using it</i>					10.13	0.001
Yes	35	60.3	27	93.1		
No	23	39.7	2	6.9		

n = number of pharmacists and head nurses.