Investigation of herbal products used by patients before surgery

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: This study aims to investigate patients' use of herbal products before surgery. Material and methods: The study was conducted among patients at a surgical clinic in a university hospital in Western Turkey from 1 January to 31 March 2019. The researchers developed a questionnaire, in accordance with existing literature, to gather data on patients' use of herbal products prior to surgery. Results: It was discovered that before surgery, 63% of patients used herbal products. Of those patients, 90.5% reported that their physicians did not inquire about their use of herbal products, and just 17% of patients knew the need to discontinue herbal products two weeks before the operation. Conclusion: Many surgical patients use herbal products, but most are unaware that they should stop two weeks before the operation. Furthermore, the medical staff has not proactively asked patients about their use of herbal products. Keywords: Herbal products; surgery; patients; safety; drug interaction; perioperative care.