**PRESCRIBING SKILLS in MEDICAL STUDENTS: DEVELOPMENT of THE TOOLBOX**

Pietro Spitaleri1\*, Arianna Biancalani1

1: School of Medicine, Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy

Several studies highlighted inadequate prescribing skills in young doctors. As final year students, we participated in educational research projects to develop innovations enhancing our prescribing skills. First, we collaborated with pharmacology teachers within an Erasmus+ project (European Prescribing Exam: [http://www.prescribingeducation.eu/european-prescribing-exam/](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.prescribingeducation.eu%2Feuropean-prescribing-exam%2F&data=04%7C01%7Ce.donker%40amsterdamumc.nl%7Ca3809d2d855f4b19d3ca08d9a999c582%7C68dfab1a11bb4cc6beb528d756984fb6%7C0%7C0%7C637727300174299698%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=%2BXXZpGotPGvbgvJlD36vBMNlPPkeE1tPm5SyNqmEzkM%3D&reserved=0)): we were part of the research group conducting a modified Delphi study to reach consensus on a list of European widely available medicines that junior doctors should be able to prescribe safely and effectively without direct supervision: the European List of Essential Medicines for Medical Education (BMJ Open 2021;11:e045635). Preliminary results will be presented at the International Medical Student Research Conference in December 2021. Second, we organised international student-run, multidisciplinary medication review events: together with medical and pharmacy students, we discussed real-world clinical cases to increase our awareness that healthcare professionals should regularly perform structured medication review especially in case of polypharmacy, to increase patient safety. These innovations will be useful to develop the final year Prescribing Exam and, in a global perspective, core qualities of prescribers (knowledgeable, contemporary, communicative, safe).

Contact information: Pietro Spitaleri [pietro.spitaleri@studio.unibo.it](mailto:pietro.spitaleri@studio.unibo.it)