

humidity. Examples of appropriate (e.g., keeping original packaging) and inappropriate (e.g., exposure to moisture) practices were reported. **Conclusions:** Educational level may influence medication storage practices. Tailored public health strategies and pharmaceutical counselling are essential to promote safe and rational medicine storage. Despite the absence of post-training evaluation, the findings highlight the need for awareness-raising interventions.

Keywords: Home medicine storage, pharmaceutical guidance, storage conditions

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Abstract-Post-80 Medication Management and Sustainability

Safe Storage Of Medicines At Home: A Systematic Review

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Background: Inadequate home storage of medicines compromises their stability and increases the risk of child access, storage of unused or expired medicines, and improper disposal [1-3]. **Objectives:** To evaluate, through a systematic review, home medicines storage practices, focusing on safety and associated risks.

Methods: A systematic review was conducted in accordance with PRISMA guidelines, and the search was performed in the PubMed database between February and May 2025. The initial query retrieved 369,768 results for the keyword “safety”, which was reduced to 93 when combining “medicines” and “home storage.” After screening, 87 articles were excluded for not meeting the inclusion criteria: cross-sectional design, focus on household storage, involvement of community-based populations, last 15-year publication window. Six studies included in the final review. **Results:** Frequent inappropriate medicines storage locations, such as kitchens and bathrooms, was reported. In many cases, were stored within reach of children and expired and unused medicines were found in more than half of the households, and improper disposal practices were common. Higher levels of education and training in health-related fields were associated with safer storage and disposal practices. **Conclusions:** Improper storage and disposal of medicines are widespread among households. Educational interventions, public awareness campaigns, pharmacy-take back medicines programs, and greater involvement of healthcare professionals, are essential to promote safe use and proper disposal of medicines in household settings.

Keywords: safety, medicines, home storage

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