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MEETING ABSTRACT

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**Use of drugs for the treatment of diabetes mellitus in the Republic of Serbia**

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**Background:** Diabetes mellitus is one of the leading chronic non-communicable diseases and in Serbia is the fifth leading cause of death. According to the latest classification of WHO, modified for the needs of the national guide for diabetes Republic of Serbia, there are four main groups of diabetes mellitus. The aim of this study was to analyze the consumption of serum antidiabetic drugs used in diabetes mellitus therapy in Serbia from 2007 to 2012, and to compare these data with Norway and Finland, countries with developed pharmacotherapeutic practice.

**Methods:** The data about the use of antidiabetic drugs in Serbia from 2007 to 2012 were taken from the Agency for Drugs and Medical Devices of the Republic of Serbia, for Norway they were taken from the official website of the Norwegian Institute for Public Health and for the use of antidiabetic drugs in Finland they were taken from the official website of the Agency for Drugs of Finland.

**Results:** In Serbia the use of antidiabetics is continuously increasing. The most commonly prescribed drugs are oral antidiabetic drugs and sulfonylurea derivatives, while Norway and Finland record the highest consumption of a biguanide and the next on the list are sulfonylurea derivatives. Sulfonylurea derivatives are the most frequently used drugs for the treatment of diabetes mellitus in Serbia (2007: 20.5 DDD; 2008: 38.1 DDD; 2009: 25.9 DDD; 2010: 15.7 DDD; 2011: 10.1 DDD; 2012: 34.1 DDD) as compared to Norway and Finland. The use of these drugs is increasing in Serbia. On the other hand, the use of biguanides in Serbia (2007: 12.5 DDD; 2008: 12.5 DDD; 2009: 15.0 DDD; 2010: 19.1 DDD; 2011: 22.2 DDD; 2012: 26.6 DDD) is significantly lower as compared to Norway and Finland.

**Discussion:** Analyzing the consumption of antidiabetic drugs in Serbia, Norway and Finland in the period from 2007 to 2012, Serbia is a country between Norway and Finland. Norway shows a uniform consumption while Finland shows a progressive increase in the consumption of antidiabetic drugs.

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