**Supplementary Table 1: The questionnaire.**

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| **Demographics**  |
| I am a student at | BAU | JU | JUST | HU | MU | YU |
| Gender | Male  | female |
| Year of study | 4th | 5th | 6th  |
| GPA | Excellent  | Very good  | Good | Fair | Poor |
| Number of Family members  | 3-4 | 5-6 | 7 or more |
| Family monthly income  | <1000 JOD | 1000-1999 JOD | >2000 JOD |
| Type of insurance  | Civil | Private  | Military  | None  |
| Do you suffer from any chronic disease that requires chronic treatment | NO | Yes \* |
| \* If yes: | What do you suffer from? (You can choose more than one) | * Asthma
* Type 1 DM
* MS
 | * SLE
* Epilepsy
* Depression
 | * Thyroid dysfunction
* Allergies
* Other: ….
 |
| Do you use any of the following medications that are not related to chronic diseases? You can choose more than one | * Vitamins and minerals (e.g. Vit C, Vit D, Vit B12, Calcium, Magnesium ...)
* Supplements (e.g. Fish oil, Probiotics, Herbal supplements....)
* Collagen
* Weight reduction drugs
* Acne medications
* Sleeping aids
* Laxatives
* Irritable bowel syndrome drugs
* I don't use any drug that is not related to a chronic disease
* Other (Please specify): ………………..
 |
| **Experience** |
| From your past visits to doctors, do they write drugs in the prescription using brand/ generic names or using the active ingredient? | Brand/ generic name | Active ingredients  | I have seen both scenarios | I don’t remember |
| Have you ever been using a brand drug then you had to use its substitute (generic drug) for any reason? | Yes, it happened to me | No, never |
| Have you ever asked the pharmacist for a substitute for a drug prescribed by your doctor? | Yes | No |
| Have you ever found one or more of the drugs in a prescription not available at the pharmacy? | Yes, many times\* | Yes, it happened a few times\* | No, it never happened |
| \* If yes: | What was the pharmacist's response to the unavailable drug? (You can choose more than one) |  They called the doctor to ask for a substitute They informed me that there is a good substitute without referring to the doctor They offered to order it for me They asked me to look in another pharmacy |
| When you were offered multiple generic drugs, which one did you choose? (You can choose more than one) | * The cheapest
* The one you tried before
* The most expensive
* The one from companies you trust
* The foreign drug
* Other: ………..
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| Have you noticed any change in drug availability due to COVID -19? | Yes | No | I don’t know |
| **Knowledge** |
| Do patients have the right to ask for a substitute for a drug a doctor prescribed for them? | Yes  | No | I don’t know |
| Do pharmacists have the right to change a drug a doctor prescribed for a patient? | Not at all  | Only if they refer to the prescriber | Yes, only for OTC drugs | Yes of course for all drugs |
| The following drugs can be switched safely: |
| CV drugs (ACEI, ARBs,BB,CCB) | Agree  | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Antiplatelet and anticoagulants  | Agree  | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Inhalers  | Agree  | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Immunosuppressants | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Pain killers | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Antibiotic | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Hormones (levothyroxine) | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Allergy drugs (antihistamines)  | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Neurological disorder drugs (Antiepileptics) | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Contraceptives  | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Corticosteroids | Agree | I don’t know | Disagree |
| Which one is more …… |
| Effective | Brand drug  | Generic drugs  | They are similar |
| Safe | Brand drug  | Generic drugs  | They are similar |
| Expensive | Brand drug  | Generic drugs  | They are similar |
| Do generic switching in chronic diseases needs more frequent monitoring? | Yes | No | I don’t know |
| Do people who ever experienced an allergic reaction to a drug should refuse any switching in their drugs? | Yes | No | I don’t know |
| **Attitude** |
| If this happened to you in the future and the pharmacist offered a substitute, what will you do? | * I trust the pharmacist and will accept the substitute
* I will ask the pharmacist to call the doctor
* I will go to another pharmacy
* Other: …
 |
| Will you accept if you need the drug urgently | Yes | No |
| Do you think pharmacists should be given the right to switch drugs without referring to the prescribers? | * Yes of course for all drugs
* Only for OTC drugs
* No at all
 |
| If you want to prescribe a drug for yourself or a family member in the future, which one will you choose? | The brand drug | Any generic drug | Generic drugs from certain companies | Depends on the case |
| As a doctor in the future, which one of the following will affect your choice of prescribed drugs? (You can choose more than one) | * Efficacy
* Safety
* Cost
* Disease status (chronic vs acute)
 | * Disease severity (mild, moderate, or severe)
* Manufacturing company
* Visits from medical representatives
* Insurance company preference
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