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# The French Society of Clinical Pharmacy ACT-IP© project: Ten years onward, results and prospects<sup>☆</sup>

Mise à disposition de l'outil de codification des interventions pharmaceutiques de la Société française de pharmacie clinique : bilan à 10 ans et perspectives

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## Summary

**Objectives.** Over the past 10 years, the French Society of Clinical Pharmacy, through the working group “standardization and promotion of clinical pharmacy activities”, has made available a tool for documentation of pharmacy interventions performed during prescription analysis in hospitals. The aim of this article is to inventory the actions that followed, to highlight how hospital pharmacists appropriated this tool, and to discuss perspectives.

**Methods.** A bibliographic search was performed from PUBMED and French pharmaceutical journals.

**Results.** Published data shows that indeed hospital pharmacist practitioners seized on this tool. The most recent articles highlight changing practices: prescription analysis is included in a package incorporating medication reconciliation process, therapeutic monitoring in collaboration with other healthcare professionals, increased detection of adverse drug effects, outpatient counseling and communication between community pharmacists and hospital pharmacists.

## Résumé

**Objectifs.** En 2003, la Société française de pharmacie clinique a mis à disposition des pharmaciens un outil de codification des interventions pharmaceutiques. L'objet de cet article est de dresser un bilan des actions menées par les pharmaciens hospitaliers sur les 10 années qui ont suivi et de discuter des perspectives.

**Méthodes.** Une veille documentaire portant sur les revues françaises complétée par une consultation de PUBMED a permis d'identifier les travaux réalisés.

**Résultats.** Les publications montrent que les pharmaciens se sont emparés de cet outil. Les plus récentes mettent en lumière une évolution des pratiques : l'analyse des prescriptions se trouve intégrée dans un ensemble incorporant la conciliation médicamenteuse, le suivi thérapeutique en collaboration avec les autres professionnels de santé, une détection accrue des effets indésirables médicamenteux, le conseil au patient sortant et la collaboration ville-hôpital.

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<sup>1</sup> Workgroup of the French Society of Clinical Pharmacy called “standardization and valuation of the activities of clinical pharmacy” (<http://www.adiph.org/sfpc/groupe.html>).

**Discussion and conclusion.** To generalize these activities, given the era of resources decrease in the health care system, pharmacists should list the tasks entrusted to them that are not pharmaceutical in nature and reflect on how to get them relieved. The analysis of the content of the ACT-IP© database offers prospects for evaluation of professional practices but also to assess skills developed by students and residents during pharmacy practice experiences and internship. The adoption of these new practices by new future postgraduates requires effective coordination between undergraduate teaching programs and first year's practical application trainings. In order to improve efficiency, French pharmacists should also inventory information tools at their disposal and analyze their strengths and weaknesses.

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**Keywords :** Clinical pharmacy, Pharmacist's intervention, Educational methods, Professionalism, Pharmaceutical information

## Introduction

In 2004, the board of the French Society of Clinical Pharmacy (SFPC – <http://www.adiph.org/sfpc/>) made available a web codification and analytics tool of the pharmaceutical interventions to the hospital pharmacists. After a historical reminder over the period that preceded this decision, the objective of this article is to draw up the actions conducted and the creation of the site ACT-IP© (<http://www.actip.sfpc.eu/actip>) that followed, to bring to light how professionals appropriated these tools to present a series of perspectives related to clinical practice.

## Methods

The documentary monitoring regarding the publications in French completed by a consultation of PUBMED enabled us to identify the realized works.

## Results

### Brief historical reminder

The analysis and the validation of the drug prescriptions were defined in the law from 1991 [1]. They give rise to pharmaceutical interventions (IP) [2]. For cultural, political, and economic reasons, this activity remained for a long time little developed in France [3] with, for consequence, a lack of visibility for the decision-makers. Nevertheless, while resting on studies conducted abroad [4,5], teams of pharmacists decided to invest a part of their working time there. These experiments gave rise to publications. The lack of

**Discussion et conclusion.** Pour généraliser ces activités, compte tenu de la crise que traverse le système de santé, les pharmaciens devraient lister des missions qui leur sont confiées qui ne sont pas pharmaceutiques par essence et réfléchir sur la manière de s'en délester. L'analyse du contenu de la base ACT-IP© offre des perspectives en matière d'évaluation des pratiques professionnelles mais aussi de mesure des compétences développées au cours des stages professionnalisant. La généralisation de ces nouvelles pratiques suppose une réelle coordination entre enseignements théoriques et applications pratiques au cours de la formation initiale. Pour garantir leur efficacité, les pharmaciens français devraient procéder à l'inventaire des outils documentaires à leur disposition et à une analyse de leurs forces et leurs faiblesses.

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standardization of the method used on the works published during almost one decade [6–22] made impossible the establishment of a cartography of the problems most frequently detected during these analyses of the medication prescriptions. This constituted an obstacle to proposals of improvement to reassure the medicinal prescription applicable at a national level.

### Assessment of the publication using the ACT-IP© codification tool

The workgroup of the French Society of Clinical Pharmacy called "standardization and valuation of the activities of clinical pharmacy" developed and validated a codification tool of the IP [23,24]. This mission was completed by the creation of the database ACT-IP©, which intended to share the realized IP between French healthcare settings [25]. Their use of an establishment of health at the local level constitutes a manner in which to realize the assessment of this activity of prescription analysis. Diverse teams used this possibility through publications (we listed 31 published studies not only during the past ten years [26–55] but also through the communications presented during the congresses of the SFPC from 2008 to 2012<sup>2</sup>). *Table 1* presents the characteristics of those who have an epidemiological nature and their main results. It brings to light the high frequency of the interventions regardless of the type of healthcare setting. These works are added to the important corpus of the publications of our foreign colleagues on the subject [56–60].

<sup>2</sup> We listed 11 communications published at the SFPC Saint-Malo congress, February 2008, 11 communications at the SFPC Lyon congress, October 2010, and 20 communications at the SFPC Bordeaux congress, February 2012 (list of the title of the available abstracts by simple demand with the first author).

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