Introduction
Currently, no drug information centers exist in the Bahamas or Caribbean Islands. There is a significant strain placed on the Public Hospitals Authority pharmacy budget in the Bahamas. The ability to purchase multiple medications in the same therapeutic class without beneficial cost analysis provided by drug information centers, specifically drug utilization reviews to the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, has depleted the hospital’s budget. This project is designed to show how cost-effective it is to have a drug information center in the Bahamas and surrounding Caribbean Islands.

Methods
Drug utilization reviews were prepared on four therapeutic classes by the University of New England’s College of Pharmacy Dalliere Drug Information Center. These were conducted to demonstrate an improvement of drug therapy, increase the patients’ quality of care, enhance therapeutic outcomes, reduce inappropriate pharmaceutical expenditures, and finally, reduce overall health care costs. Based on the information provided from the drug utilization reviews to the Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee, the proper adjustments were made to the formulary. The cost savings were documented over a period of three months and presented to hospital administrators.

Results
Total saving per month for the four therapeutic classes were $13,176, $1,031, $12,480, and $1,914. Average total savings of $342,618 for fiscal year.
Hospital administrators voted for investment in creating a drug information center.
Increased administrators ability to provide needed pharmaceutical care.
Alleviated cost expenditures.

Total Cost Savings Per Month
- Therapeutic Class A (Statins) $13,176
- Therapeutic Class B (ARB’s) $1,031
- Therapeutic Class C (ACE Inh’s) $12,480
- Therapeutic Class D (PPI’s) $1,914

Conclusion/Evaluation
Services provided by a drug information center were helpful with improving patient care, reducing inappropriate pharmaceutical expenditures, and increasing the healthcare teams overall outlook on the profession of pharmacy.

Disclosure
Authors of this presentation have the following to disclose concerning possible financial or personal relationships with commercial entities that may have a direct interest in the subject matter of this presentation:
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