

TECHNICAL VISIT TO HIGHLY CRITICAL SECTORS IN SEARCH OF POTENTIALLY INAPPROPRIATE MEDICATIONS IN A LARGE MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL IN RIO DE JANEIRO

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Introduction

Pharmacovigilance aims to identify, evaluate, and prevent adverse events and errors associated with medicines (ME). ME are common to be found in hospital units, especially in highly critical units^{3; 4; 6}. Potentially inappropriate medications (PIMs) are those that present high risks and can cause serious adverse effects due to failure in the use process^{1; 2; 5}. To a large extent, errors are preventable and in the hospital environment, multidisciplinary activity is essential to prevent errors from reaching the patient. For this reason, preventive strategies must be adopted^{2; 4}.

The objective of the work is to search in previously defined sectors followed by tracking PIMs.

Material and Methods

This is a prospective longitudinal interventional study, carried out in four sectors of a Municipal Urgency and Emergency Hospital. Inspection scripts were used to develop the study, in order to stipulate the number of PIMs found in excess and in a state of unusability, including expired ones. The data was compiled and finally processed using the Excel platform.

Results and Discussion

From the visits carried out, 280 medicines were found in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) I, 589 in ICU II, 940 in ICU III and 813 in the Emergency Room (ER), totaling 2622 medicines in two months of searching. In ICU I, 16.43% are considered PIMs, while PIMs/psychotropics account for 1.43%, of this total, 80.43% were considered usable while 19.57% were considered unusable. In ICU II, 24.96% were PIMs and 9.34% were PIMs/psychotropics, in total 90.48% were considered usable and unusable accounts for 9.52%. In ICU III, 43.30% of PIMs and 10.74% of PIMs/psychotropics were estimated, with 90.17% being subject to and 9.83% being discarded. In ER, 22.63% were PIMs and 8.12% PIMs/psychotropics, it was estimated that 46.74% were usable and 53.26% unusable.

Conclusion

The results demonstrate the importance of greater control over PIMs after the dispensing process, as they were found in all sectors investigated in inadequate and excessive conditions, posing a risk to patients' health. In this aspect, the role of the pharmaceutical professional in the proposed visits with the multidisciplinary team characterizes an important strategy for preventing errors associated with the use of PIMs^{2; 4; 6}.

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