USE OF DRUGS IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS


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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

The use of medications in special situations is a common practice worldwide, even though it is a field with very few published studies at present. A lot of effort is spent daily in hospital pharmacy services to process requests for these medications. Knowing which medical specialties and which drugs are most commonly used in such situations can be a good policy to know what economic weight these drugs have over the total.

AIM AND OBJECTIVE

Analyze the drugs used in special conditions in the hospital in 2021. The specific objectives were to describe the use and budgetary impact of foreign drugs and drugs authorized under conditions other than those established in the technical data sheet. In addition, another objective was the description of the use of compassionate medicines.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

• Electronic search on the AEMPS website for drugs use under special conditions.
• Search for the cost of each of the foreign drugs purchased.
• Data mining of individualized requests for treatment with indications not included in the prescribing information drug.
• Calculation of the cost per patient of those drugs used under conditions other than those authorized in prescribing information drug.

RESULTS

OFF-LABEL DRUGS

2,033 patients (108 active ingredients in 193 indications)

Most requested off-label drugs

Ustekinumab
Pembrolizumab

€6,308,000

FOREIGN DRUGS

173 patients (55 active ingredients in 71 indications)

Most requested foreign drugs in 2021

Thyrotropin alpha
Alpha tocopheryl acetate
Defibrotide

€1,346,000.

COMPASSIONATE DRUGS

There were 259 compassionate drug applications processed (35 active ingredients in 38 indications). Remdesivir was the most widely used compassionate drug

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

There is a need to continue with the protocolization of special uses to improve their knowledge and facilitate their availability. The information systems should be completed to speed up the use of data and to include requests for drugs pending funding.

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