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L01 - Cytostatics

IMPLEMENTATION OF A SPECIFIC CIRCUIT OF HAZARDOUS DRUGS IN A PHARMACY DEPARTMENT

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BACKGROUND

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) published in 2016 a list of hazardous drugs (HDs) that, due to their harmful effects on the organism, require special handling. While the preventive measures taken by health professionals in their preparation and administration often correspond to the established recommendations, receiving and transporting them are less protocolized stages in the drug chain.

Objective: Implement a specific circuit of internal transport of antineoplastic HDs, from its reception to its storage, within the Pharmacy Department (PD).

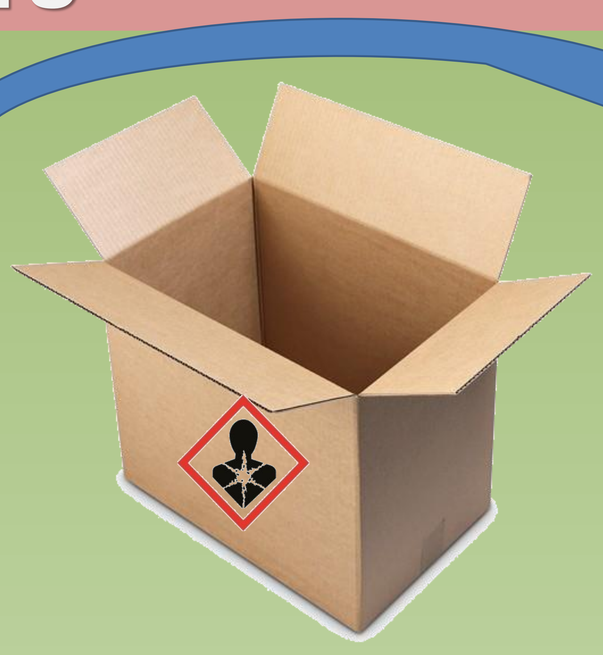
MATERIAL AND METHODS

In February 2017, a multidisciplinary group of HD was established in a third level hospital, to be approached and adapted according to current regulations.
We analyzed the current situation and the ideal situation, to identify possible discrepancies and to be able to adopt improvement measures. It was reviewed which drugs of the hospital pharmacotherapeutic guide were antineoplastic HD. Once identified, it was objectified that the measures of reception and transportation to its place of storage, were not adequate to the recommendations. There were deviations in identification and preventive management measures.

RESULTS

A specific circuit for the reception and internal transport of antineoplastic HDs was established in the PD.
At the level of the receipt of medicines, a list of them was elaborated. It included:
- Active substance
- Commercial brand

It also indicated the measures to be taken in case of need to be manipulated.



- Once identified, the HDs were grouped together and separated from the rest of the drugs.

- Labels were designed with a symbol that indicated the dangerousness of the product.

Drugs were transported through an independent circuit in semi-enclosed containers that reduced the risk of breakage during transport. All the changes made were reflected in the respective standard logistic distribution procedures of PD.

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CONCLUSIONS

A specific circuit for the reception and transport of antineoplastic HDs, based on the identification of products and the need to take preventive measures of safety, allows to maximize the safety of PD workers.

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