

RELATIVE VALUE UNITS AS A PRODUCTIVITY SCORE OF MANAGEMENT OF ONCOLOGY MEDICATION IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS

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Background

Relative Value Units (RVU) as a clinical management tool prove to be useful to measure different pharmaceutical activities. However, little is known about RVU for management of medication in special situations.

Purpose

To measure productivity in the management, dispensation, elaboration and pharmaceutical care activity of oncology medication in special situations: expanded or early access (EA) and "off-label" use in a pharmaceutical department by estimating RVU.

Material and methods

Retrospective and observational study performed in a tertiary hospital. Data from all EA and off-label use oncology drugs requests were collected from January 2015-February 2018 (38 months).

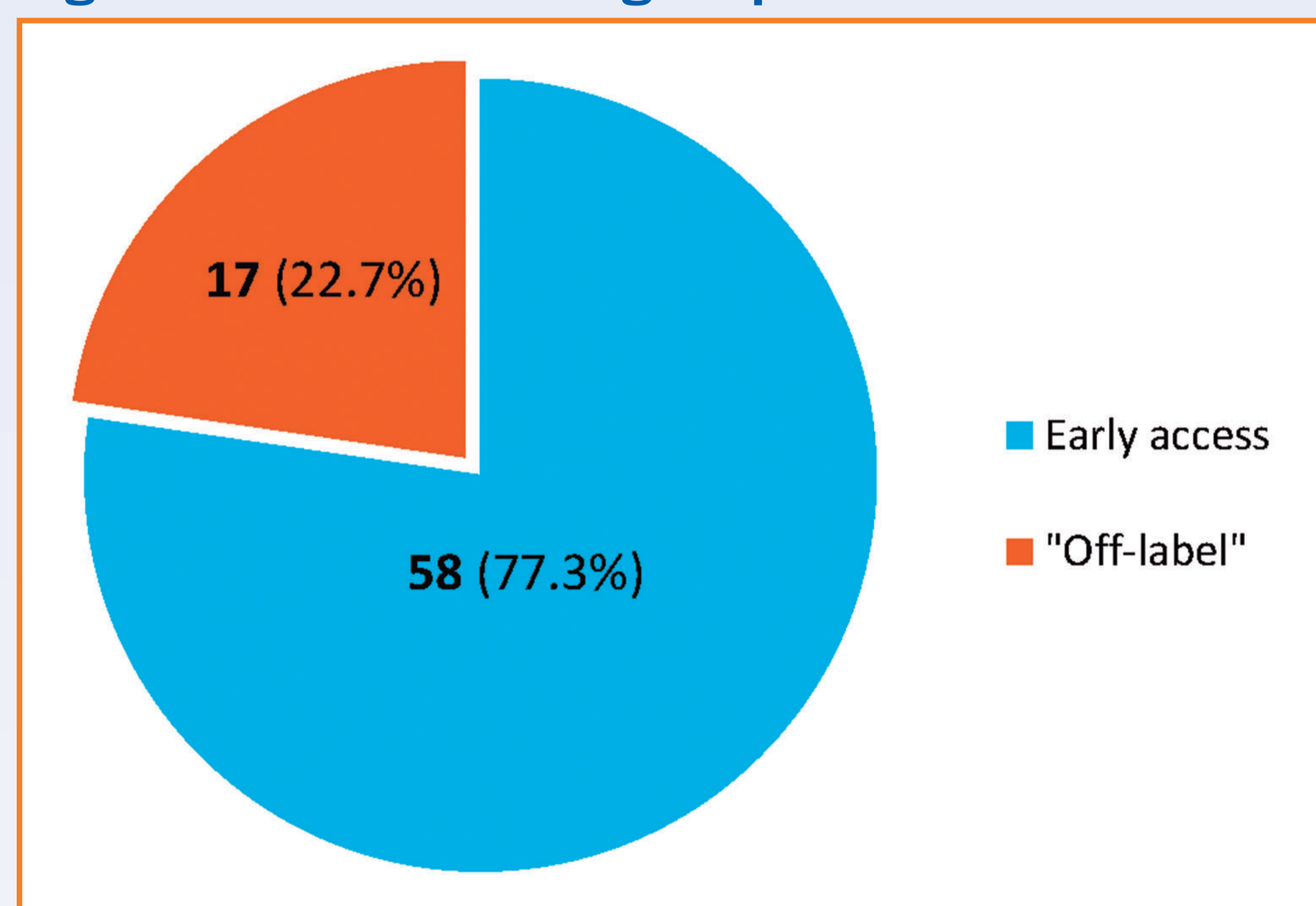
Variables collected: active drug, kind of drug in special condition (EA/"off-label") and length of treatment. Pharmaceutical processes included: management, dispensation, elaboration and pharmaceutical care.

RVU assigned to each activity have been obtained from a standardized document drawn up by Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacist.¹

Results

75 oncology drugs requests were analyzed.

Figure 1. % of kind of drug in special condition.



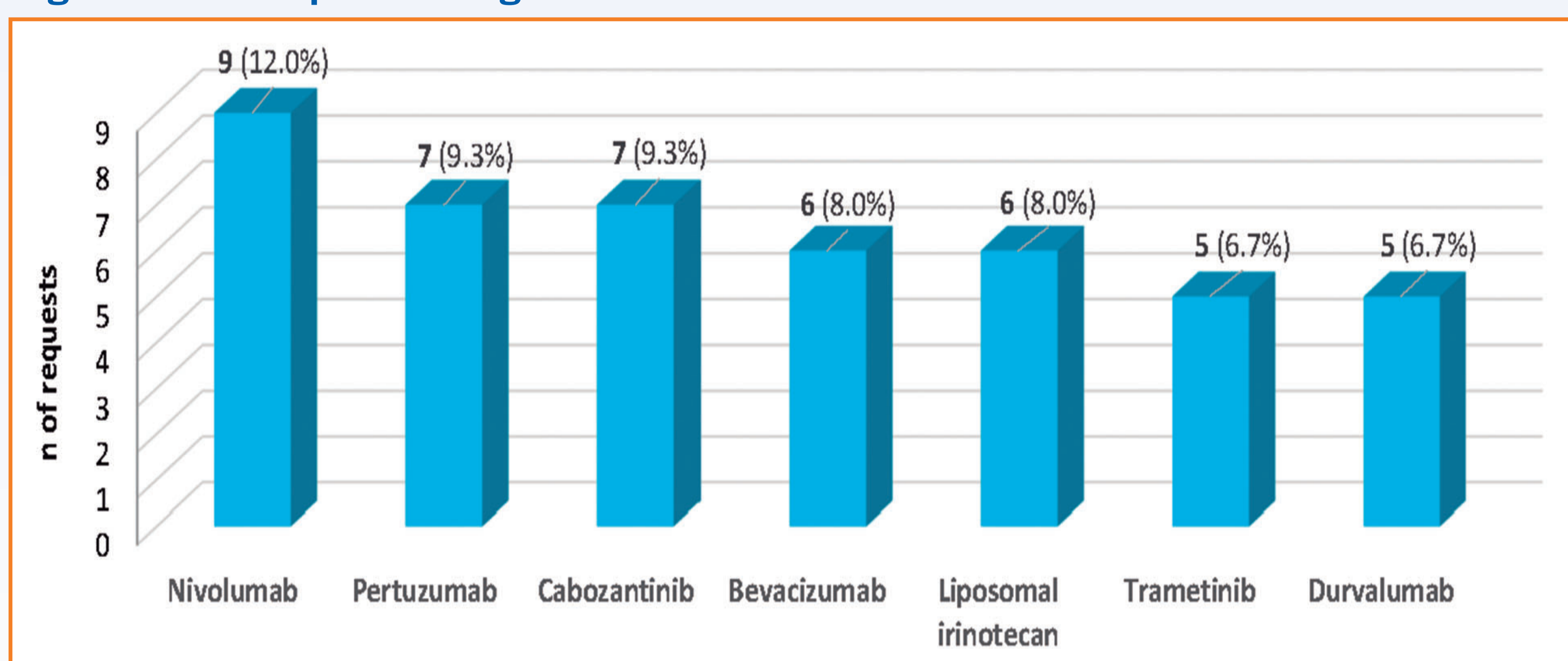
The length average of treatment was 5.9 months.

Table 1. Total produced RVU by activity.

ACTIVITY AREA	RVU value	Total produced RVU
1. MANAGEMENT AREA		
1.1. Processing of drugs (initial and consecutive application)	19.82	4677.52*
2. DISPENSATION AREA		
2.1. Successive dispensations in outpatient	5.08	960.12
3. ELABORATION AREA		
3.1. GMP of new cytotoxic preparation	16.02	128.16
3.2. Elaboration of cytotoxic drug	79.15	23190.95
4. PHARMACEUTICAL CARE AREA		
4.1. To inpatient about specific drug therapy		
4.1.1. Initial	39.58	1385.3
4.1.2. Successive	13.19	3403.02
4.2. To outpatient		
4.2.1. Initial	21.11	675.52

The most requested drugs

Figure 2. % of requested drugs.



*In total, 4320.76 (92.4%) were processing of EA drugs.

Conclusions

- The pharmaceutical process with the highest productivity was elaboration of cytotoxic drugs.
- Processing of EA vs "off-label" in oncology means 92.4% of total management activity.

References

1. Grupo TECNO. Servicio de Farmacia Hospitalaria. Catálogo de productos y Facturación. Madrid;2009.



<http://www.eahp.eu/24-2SPD-012>