SURVEY OF DRUG SHORTAGES IN HUNGARIAN HOSPITALS

R.G. VIDA1, S. SEBŐK2, B. NYAKA1, J. HORNYÁK1, L. BOTZ1.

1UNIVERSITY OF PéCS FACULTY OF PHARMACY, DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICS AND CENTRAL CLINICAL PHARMACY, PÉCS, HUNGARY.
2SEMMELWEIS UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY ADMINISTRATION, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY.

BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Drug shortages pose an enormous challenge to health care systems globally. However, the data available is limited, as there are 53 surveys in the literature and only 54,7% (29) contain any information regarding the prevalence of drug supply issues.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Our aim was to develop a questionnaire based on the available surveys and collect evidence of drug shortages in the Hungarian hospitals.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

With an extensive literature search between 1-15., April in 2019, we identified the relevant surveys and questionnaire, and afterwards developed a Hungarian version with 45 questions categorized in 5 main sections: 1. Institutional data and demographics; 2. Prevalence and background; 3. The management of drug shortages; 4. Information sources; 5. Consequences of drug shortages. Data was collected between 15. May and 30. June, 2019 with an online survey among hospital pharmacists.

RESULTS

36 women and 6 men
>36 years old (73.8%)
52.4% experienced drug shortage more than 10 times in the last 6 months

80% of the cases can be solved

Gathering information and communication with manufacturers and wholesalers
Identification of generic and therapeutic alternatives
Inventory management
Individual import and contingent supply

Examples for active pharmaceutical ingredients:
• Immunoglobulins
• Digoxin
• sodium ferric gluconate
• Phytoestrogens
• Idarubicin
• Amoxicillin/clavulanic acid

Original and generic drugs, parenteral and oral dosage forms were equally affected

53.7% usually lasts for months

According to the participants the official drug shortage list is not the primary source of information!

Associated with 30-50% price augmentation – have cost effect on the institutional work

The main reasons behind drug shortages

- manufacturing problems
- tendering processes
- raw material supply problems
- factors associated with drug supply system
- serialization
- merges of drug companies
- change in guidelines
- unknown

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

This is the first time a drug shortage survey focusing on Hungary was completed. The data and tendencies collected are mainly in accordance with results of previous surveys and global tendencies. However it is a new result that drugs belonging to ATC group B are affected the mostly by supply disruptions in Hungary. In addition, this is the first time that the serialization is linked with drug shortages in a survey.

Contact data: Robert G. Vida vida.robert@pte.hu
Abstract number: 2SPD-021

25th Congress of the EAHP
Hospital Pharmacy 5.0 - the future of patient care