PARACTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF MEDICAL DEVICES
BASED ON ANATOMICAL SYSTEMS AND CREATION OF AN ELECTRONIC GUIDE FOR USERS IN A TEACHING HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND

The number and diversity of medical devices held and managed by a teaching hospital's pharmacy is very large. Therefore, a good practical classification and the availability for all users of an actualized guide is a good way to ensure better management and avoid mistakes.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

1 An exhaustive list of all the medical devices used in our teaching hospital was collected from the pharmacy management software and extracted as an Excel file containing 233 items.
2 A practical classification was made, based mainly on anatomical systems and all the medical devices were classified into categories according to their main anatomical place of use.
3 The final step was to realize a guide of all the medical devices in the form of monographs containing all the relevant information for the users.

RESULTS

The classification established contained 9 classes. The main classes determined were: Medical devices for respiratory system (23.37% of the items), surgical devices (18.77%), parenteral devices (12.64%) and ophthalmological devices (10.34%). This classification, used to establish a logical system of storage allowed to optimize the management of space and time and avoid some mistakes or confusions.

A guide of all the medical devices in the form of monographs containing a picture of every product, the names and synonyms, the definitions, indications and all the other relevant information was realized. An electronic version, periodically actualized of this guide is to be included in the hospital's information system to be accessible for all users.

CONCLUSION

Classification and nomenclature systems are usually developed for specific purposes, such as Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) classification by the World Health Organization for drugs. Medical devices are more difficult to group into categories. In this work, we established a logical classification based on the main anatomical place of use. This classification permitted a better storage and management of these products.