GLASS AMPOULES AND DRUG FILTRATION: ¿HOW MUCH DO WE KNOW ABOUT IT?

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Background and importance

Glass ampoules (GA) have many advantages but many disadvantages too, like detachment of microscopic glass particules over the drug after the opening, that may cause phlebitis, embolism and other side effects during administration.

To prevent these problems, the use of filters it is recommended before drug administration. Nevertheless, they are priceless and incompatible with many drugs.

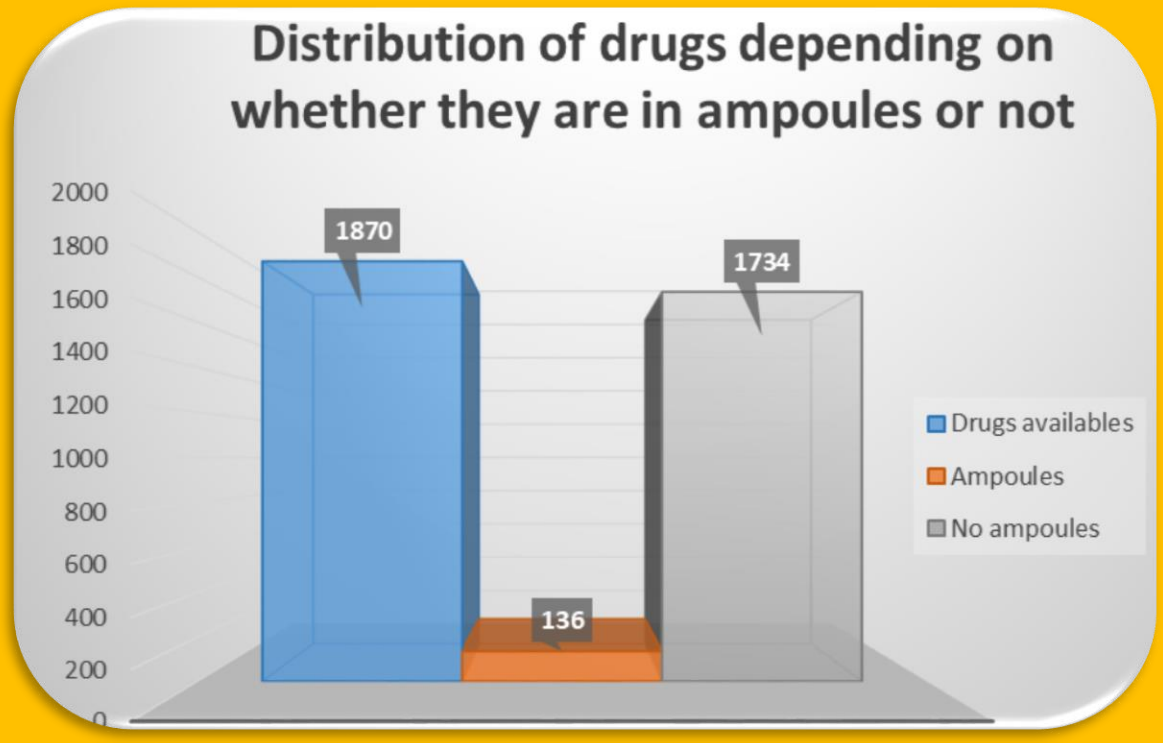
Aim and objectives

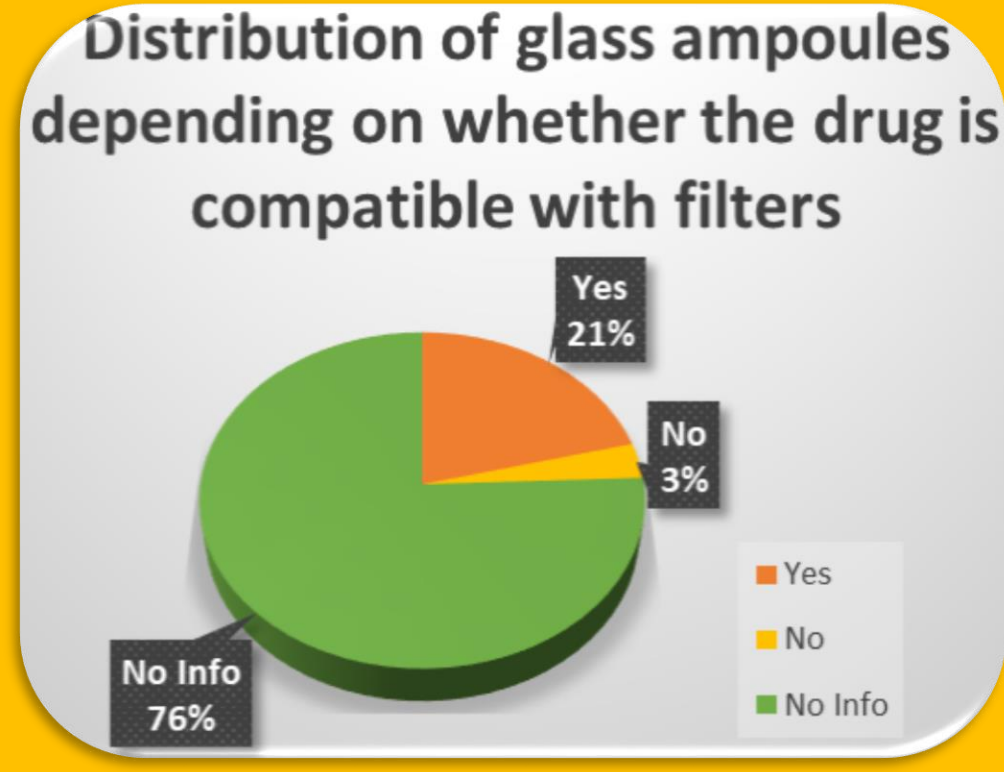
Identify comercialized ampoules drugs avaliable in our pharmacy service (PS), check those contained in glass ampoules and bibliographic review of its compatibility with filters.

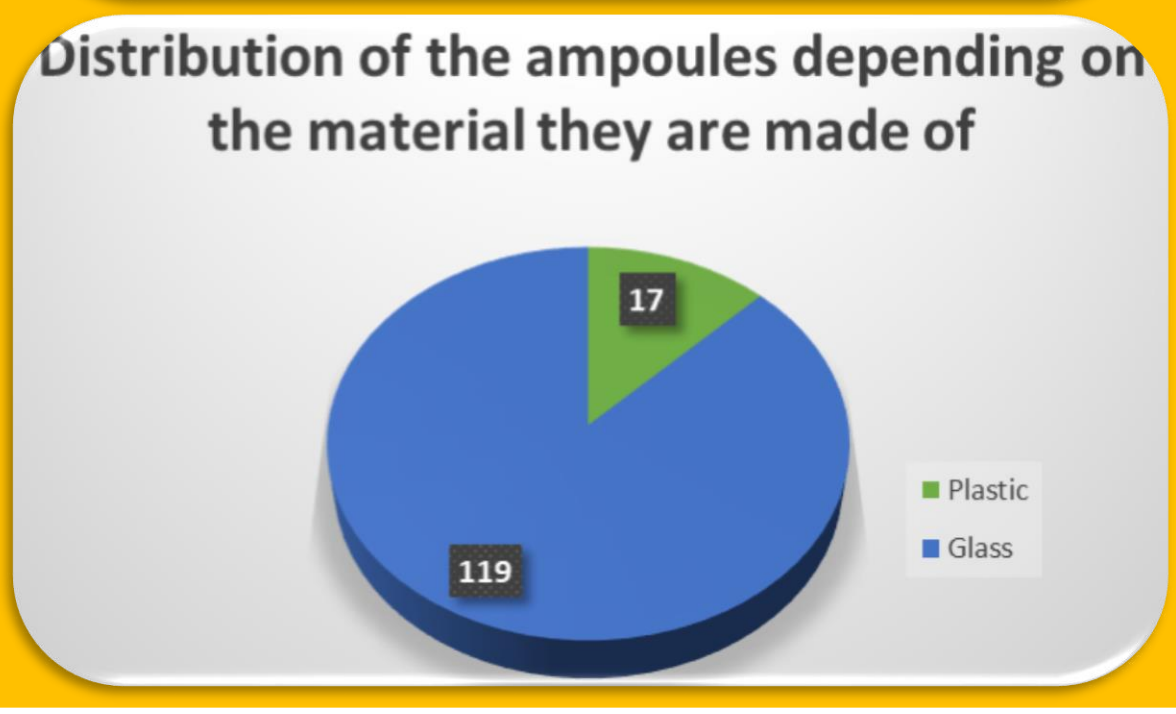
Materials and methods

We used our informatic program Farmatools ® to get a list of drugs contained in ampoules avaliable in our PS. Then we verfied physically the material they were made of. Finally, we did a bibliographic review of those drugs to check its compatibility with filters by using the key words “ampoule” and “filter” in Micromedex, drug´s data sheets and Handbook on Injectable Drugs (17.ª ed.).

Results







Conclusion and relevance

- Most of the drugs packaged in ampoules are made of glass.
- There is no evidence about its compatibility with filters, but in those which exists, the majority are compatible with filters.
- Despite the evidence about these problems related with opening GA, the information available about its compatibility is limited and more studies are needed.

References and/or acknowledgements:
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