HAZARDOUS DRUGS: IMPACT OF MEASURES FOR SAFE HANDLING

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

The 2016 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) update classified hazardous drugs (HD) with risk for the healthcare staff in 3 lists.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

➢ To analyse the HD included in hospital formulary and the safe handling measures implemented.
➢ Quantifying the prescriptions of HD and the pharmaceutical interventions required.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

PROSPECTIVE STUDY (January-June 2019). Data collection:
- Hazardous drug.
- Classification group.
- Number of inpatient prescriptions.
- Number of pharmaceutical interventions.

NIOSH LIST

LIST 1: Antineoplastic drugs
LIST 2: Non-antineoplastic drugs
LIST 3: Drugs with reproductive risk

The hospital formulary was revised to classify HD according to risk level. Antineoplastic IV drugs were excluded. A safe work procedure was developed and Pharmacy procedures were revised.

RESULTS

HOSPITAL FORMULARY: There were 78 medications involved in NIOSH lists: 29.5% of list 1, 38.5% of list 2 and 32% of list 3.

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

There is a large amount of drugs classified like hazardous in the hospital. Most of the drug prescriptions belong to list 3 of NIOSH classification. An additional effort for Pharmacy Department is required. Working procedures should be revised about safe handling.