

Background and importance

According to the European Commission, every year more than 20 million workers in Europe are exposed to carcinogenic, mutagenic, reprotoxic hazardous drugs.

Aim and objectives

To review the safety of handling hazardous drugs in our paediatric referral hospital, according to the national guidelines included in the "Technical Document on Hazardous Medicines, preventive measures for their preparation and administration".

Material and methods

Medicines included in our pharmacy formulary labelled as Hazardous were classified into three groups according to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) proposed model.

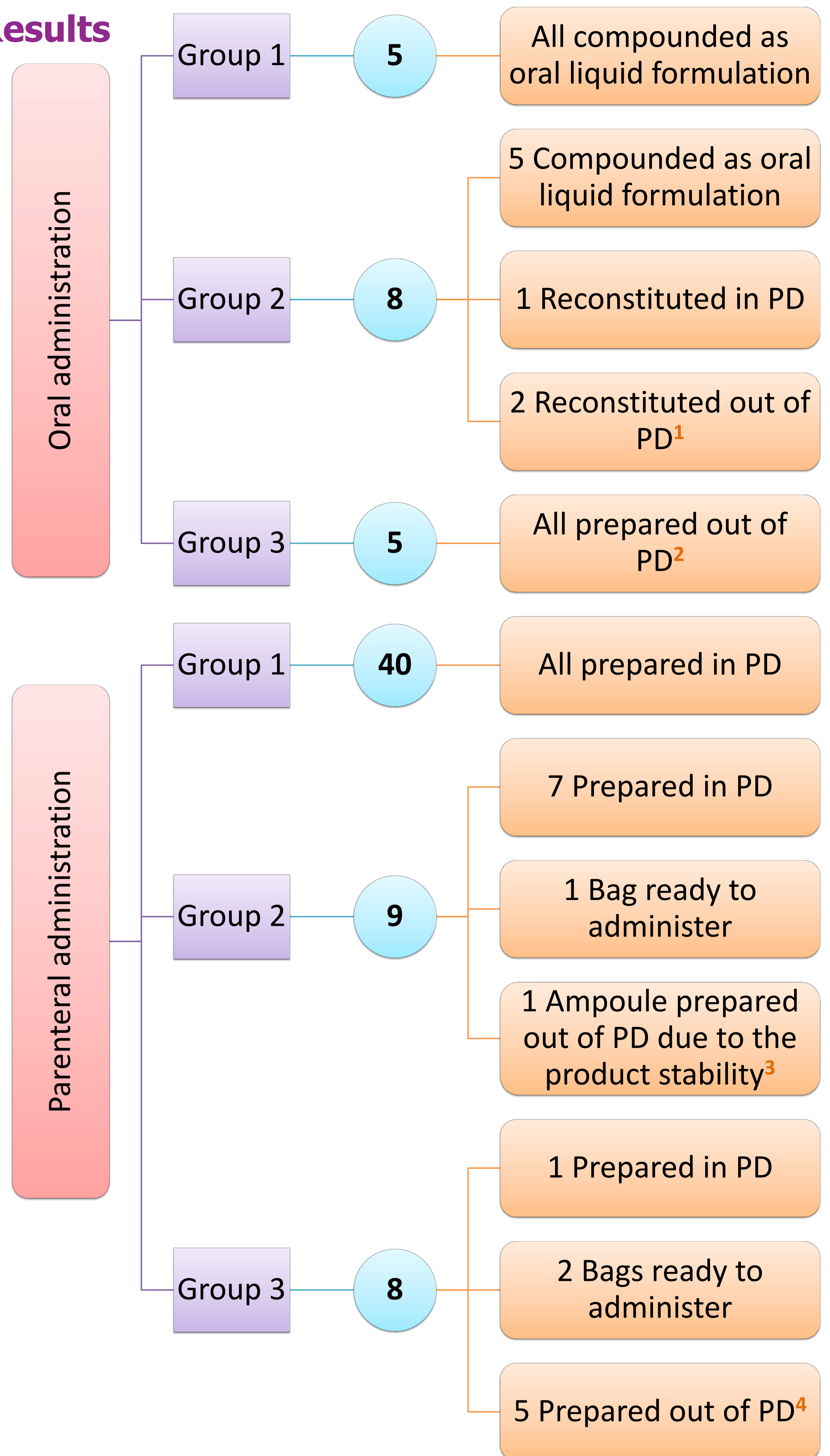
We categorised each group according to the route of administration and we noted if drugs were currently prepared or not in the Pharmacy Department (PD).

Conclusion and relevance

Actions planned for each drug group:

1. Reconstitution is required for 3 of them, which can be done on the PD. The other 2 are sold in sachets, so we plan to elaborate a handling protocol.
2. Directly proposed to prepare them in PD
3. Requesting compounded intravenous products to be stored in vials and preparing them using enclosed systems.

Results



4. Three could be prepared on the PD and, as for the rest, elaborate an accurate handling protocol and ensure utilization of enclosed systems for their preparation.

Finally, we encourage implementing the safe-handling recommendations step by step to achieve the goal of workers safety plan.