THE CLINICAL PHARMACIST: AN ESSENTIAL ACTOR IN TIMES OF CRISIS

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Background and Importance

During the health emergency period related to the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, clinical pharmacists have played a vital role in mitigating medication errors, especially prescription errors in hospitals.

Aim and objectives

Descriptive analysis of pharmaceutical interventions (PI) on prescriptions for patients in COVID units at our institution.

Material and methods

Prospective collection of PIs:
- From November to February 2020
- Patients with positive COVID-19 status

Pharmaceutical analysis:
- Providing pharmaceutical interventions
- Correct drug-related errors

Results

- November to February 2020
- 818 prescriptions were analyzed
- 63 pharmaceutical interventions

Drug-related problems:
- Overdosage
- Drug use without indication
- Non-conformity to guidelines
- Underdosage
- Drug interaction
- Untreated indication
- Drug follow-up
- Inappropriate administration
- Failure to receive drugs
- Side effect

The problem of dosage, particularly overdose, ranked first with a percentage of 38% (Corticosteroids, hydroxychloroquine)

Followed by drug use without indication (17%): forgetting to stop vitamin therapy and antibiotics.

Pharmaceutical interventions:
- Dosage adaptation
- Stop
- Substitution / Exchange
- Addition
- Optimal administration
- Treatment reminder
- Biological/drug follow-up

Dosage adaptation (40%) was the most prevalent PI: adaptation of hydroxychloroquine to kidney function

Followed by PIs that led to stopping the drug (29%)

Conclusion

- The commitment of clinical pharmacy in such a pandemic is therefore important.
- The presence of clinical pharmacists has led to a significant reduction in prescription problems related to drugs.