Analysis of the situation of Pharmaceutical Care for patients with Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Diseases before and after the COVID-19 pandemic

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Objective
To describe, analyze and compare the situation of pharmaceutical care units for outpatients with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases of the Pharmacy Services of Spain at two different times

Method
- **Type of study:** Descriptive observational, longitudinal, multicenter and unidisciplinary
- **Participants:** Pharmacist who complete the survey o pharmacist that work in outpatient unit in Spain between 2019 and 2021
- **Variables:** Committee participation, Care coordination, use of biosimilars, resources, telepharmacy and unmet needs
- **Statistic analysis:** Numerical results in absolute value and percentage and free text responses grouped by topic areas Chi-Square test with a significance level of p<0.05 to compare results between two collection times

Results
- **Participation level:** 70 pharmacists in 2019 and 53 in 2021
- **Committees participation:** 11.3% increase in asthma biologic committee (p=0.044)
- **Care coordination:** Increase of 25.3% in dermatology (p=0.003) and 20.0% in digestive (p=0.022)
- **Use of biosimilars:** 15.0% increase in switch of reference biological to biosimilar
- **Resources:** Use of patient stratification model of MAPEX project was a minority (5.8% in 2019 and 15.1% in 2021) and use of information and communication technologies increased in 13.0%
- **Telepharmacy:** Established for first time in 85.0% of centers and maintaining service at 66.0% at time of second survey
- **Unmed needs:** Lack of research in field and insufficient human resources

Conclusions
- Outpatient pharmaceutical care units are undergoing constant change to adapt to new times, for which institutional support is needed to invest resources to promote development of strategies to reduce unmet needs
- We must continue working to achieve a pharmaceutical practice that provides efficiency, safety, quality of life and access to innovative drugs in patients with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases