Background and Importance

As the general population, HIV patients with antiretroviral treatment (ART) tend to be polymedicated. In this scenario, it is crucial to verify the real-time prevalence of interactions and their clinical relevance.

Aim and Objectives

Review of ART and co-medication in HIV patients by a hospital pharmacist in order to detect interactions and improve safety.

Materials and Methods

Prospective study carried out in consecutive patients seen by a physician and a pharmacist between April-May / 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VARIABLES COLLECTED</th>
<th>INTERACTIONS REVIEWED IN:</th>
<th>CLASSIFIED BY INTERACTION LEVEL:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Age</td>
<td>• Lexicomp</td>
<td>• No interaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sex</td>
<td>• Liverpool</td>
<td>• Potential weak interaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Viral load (VL)</td>
<td>• Micromedex</td>
<td>• Potential interaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ART</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Contraindicated</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Co-medication</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Results

- 100 patients (72% men)
- Mean age 48
- VL <50 copies/ml: 95%
- 68 used co-medication (a mean of 3.3 drugs per patient)
- Interaction in 57 (24.9%) of the 229 drugs:
  - 39 (68.4%) potential interaction
  - 17 (29.8%) potential weak interaction
  - 1 (1.8%) contraindicated

- The 57 detected interactions affected: co-medication (46), ART (9), both (1) and physiological factors (1).
- Recommendations: analytical control of thyroid function, separation of drug intake, drug substitution (antipsychotics, anxiolytics, analgesics), monitoring of immunosuppressant levels, control of kidney function and performance of an electrocardiogram.

Conclusion and Relevance

- Most of the interactions were potential (68.4%), affecting mainly co-medication and specially drugs of the Nervous System.
- Even though HIV physicians are well aware of ART interactions, as polymedication increase, the real-time pharmacist review is a safety need.
- It was gratifying the opportunity to intercept all these interaction in real-time with the prescriber.