

# ANALYSIS OF PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS WITH POTENTIAL TO AVOID DRUG ADVERSE EVENTS IN HOSPITALISED PATIENTS, AND CALCULATION OF AVOIDED COST

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## BACKGROUND

To demonstrate the added value that pharmacists bring, it is essential that all activities undertaken to improve therapy in the hospital are recorded and quantified.

## PURPOSE

To analyse the pharmaceutical **interventions with potential to avoid adverse drug events (ADE)** in hospitalised patients and to calculate the cost avoided with them.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

➤ **Retrospective study of pharmaceutical interventions** carried out over 3 months.

➤ **Avoided cost** was calculated from multiplying 1.7 days (average stay increase due to an **ADE** according to the bibliography), cost of the stay and probability of ADE occurrence if it had not been intervened.



### REGISTRATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS

- In the pharmacy software.
- Then, they were exported to Excel, where variables were registered.



### ANALYSIS OF PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS



### COUNTING OF POTENTIAL AVOIDED COST (PAC)

**PAC = 1,7 days x cost of the stay x probability of ADE**

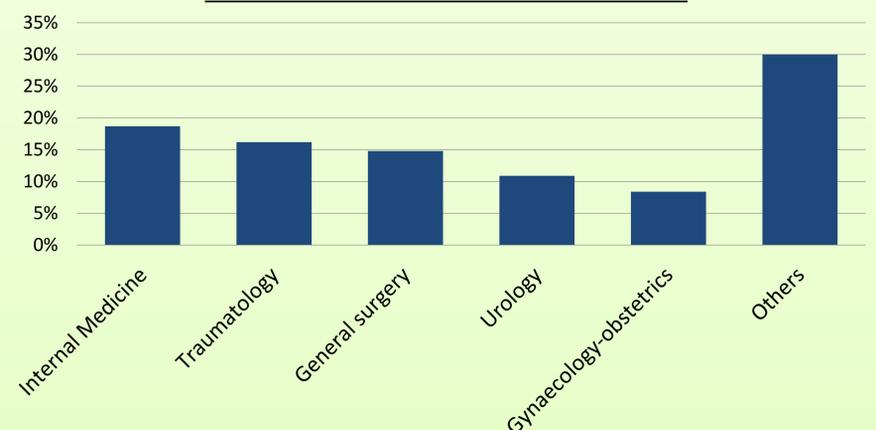
## RESULTS

➤ Over a period of 3 months, **10 pharmacists performed 1238 interventions**, in **958 hospitalised patients** in charge of **15 clinical departments** (See *Chart 1*). **Reasons** for intervention are described in *Table 1*.

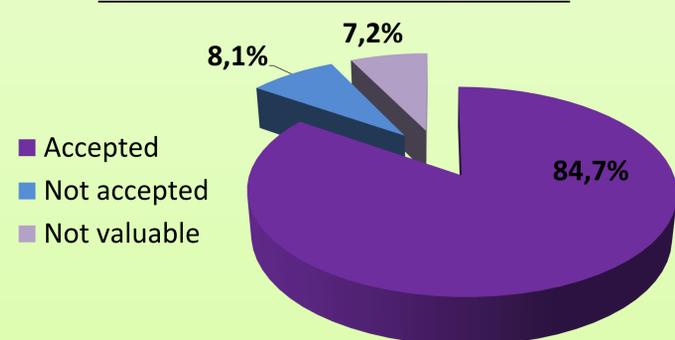
**Table 1. REASONS FOR INTERVENTION**

Reason for Intervention	Percentage
Treatment reconciliation	41.4%
Therapeutic exchange	16.5%
Narrow therapeutic window/high-risk drug	9.6%
Moderate adverse reaction	6.9%
Renal impairment adjustment	4%
Relevant interaction	3.5%
2 to 4 times upper/lower dosage	2.7%
Other dosage adjustments	2.7%
Therapeutic doubling	2.2%
Other optimisations	1.5%
Severe adverse reaction	1.5%
Clarification/completing medical order	1.3%
Adequacy of antibiotic treatment	1.3%
Providing relevant information	1.2%
Low-risk drug lacking/remaining	1.1%
Pharmaceutical form/administration route with toxicity risk or therapeutic failure	0.8%
Allergy	0.6%
Sequential therapy	0.6%
4 to 10 times upper/lower dose	0.2%
Mild adverse reaction	0.2%
Asking for blood test	0.2%

**Chart 1. INTERVENTIONS IN DEPARTMENTS**



**Chart 2. ACCEPTANCE OF INTERVENTIONS**



➤ Accepted pharmaceutical interventions were estimated to have **avoided a cost of € 169.816**, by preventing prolongation of the hospital stay due to ADE.

## CONCLUSION

- ✓ Registration of pharmaceutical interventions is **essential for analysing and quantifying the role of the pharmacist** as part of the care team.
- ✓ The pharmacist is involved in **optimising the pharmacotherapy of hospitalised patients** in all clinical departments, contributing to the **prevention of ADE**, which means an increase in patient safety, as well as **cost savings for the sanitary system**.