1. BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

- Analysing the patients’ characteristics in one paediatric palliative care unit is significant, as there are few of those units in our hospitals.
- Sialorrhea is one of the commonly associated symptoms in those patients and its treatment frequently implies a challenge for healthcare professionals.

2. OBJECTIVES

- To describe the characteristics of patients followed in a Chronic Complex Palliative Paediatric Patient at-home Care Unit (CCPPHU) of a University Hospital.
- To analyse sialorrhea’s treatment.

3. MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Subjects included: Patients in the CCPPHU during April 2021
- Type of study: Observational, Retrospective, Transversal
- Variables registered: Sociodemographic, Clinical, Pharmacotherapeutic
- Patients with sialorrhea: Need for drugs and/or surgery, Number of drugs and treatment needed.

4. RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Patients</th>
<th>36</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean age</td>
<td>9.5 years (±5.5) (7 months - 19 years)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>20 males (55.6%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rare illness as main diagnostic</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mean time in CCPPHCU</td>
<td>22.5 months (±14.5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mean number of drugs</td>
<td>6.9 (±3.9)</td>
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</tbody>
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Common symptoms
- 80.6% Convolusions
- 66.7% Constipation
- 58.3% Sialorrhea
- 55.6% Spasticity

Other therapies needed
- Speech therapy
- Laxatives
- Anticonvulsivants
- Antispasmodics
- Magistral formulas

Patients with sialorrhea
- Type of therapy needed: Drugs 81%, Only speech therapy 19%, Surgery 0%
- Number of different drugs needed:
  - 1: 52.4%
  - 2: 9.5%
  - ≥3: 19%

Which drugs?
- Botulinum toxin: 4.8%
- Glycopyrrolate: 19.0%
- Scopolamine: 33.3%
- Trihexyphenidyl: 71.4%

Which ones used in first line?
- Trihexyphenidyl: 82.4%
- Scopolamine: 11.8%
- Glycopyrrolate (magistral formula): 5.9%

5. CONCLUSIONS

- Seizures, constipation, sialorrhea, and spasticity are common symptoms in our CCPPHCU, often requiring medication.
- Patients with sialorrhea commonly require pharmacological treatment. Trihexyphenidyl is the most used as first-line, followed by scopolamine and glycopyrrolate.