ONCOHAEMATOLOGICAL PHARMACEUTICAL CARE CONSULTATION. IS THE INFORMATION ON THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC ASSESSMENT REPORT OF DRUGS ENOUGH?

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BACKGROUND
The European Public Assessment Report (EPAR) is the document that summarizes the scientific-technical characteristics of the drugs. The information that EPAR should provide is described in the directive 2004/27/CE, but sometimes it isn’t enough to give an answer for all the patients of the onco-haematological pharmaceutical care consultation.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES
To evaluate if the information in the EPAR of oral antineoplastic drugs that are dispensed in the outpatient consultation service (OCS) is enough to the management of these drugs in patients with swallowing problems or with nasogastric tubes.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Oral Antineoplastics drugs EPAR’s
Requests: “oral antineoplastic”, “swallowing” and “feeding tube”
Call to laboratories

RESULTS

32 cytostatics
5 can be dispersing
20 can’t be crushed
5 no reference about how to administer
2 wasn’t found.

EPARs
11 relevant information
4 information was very limited
12 no information

10 Laboratories
2 no response
5 no additional information
5 isolated cases in bibliography

CONCLUSIONS
The information collected in the EPAR is insufficient to resolve doubts of an onco-haematological pharmaceutical care consultation in most cases and it’s necessary to do bibliographic searches to obtain quality information. Laboratories should provide all available information and implement trials to evaluate the efficacy of drugs in real practice.