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SAFETY STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE DRUG LABELLING IN OPERATING ROOMS

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OBJECTIVES

Operating rooms (OR) are an area with a significant proportion of **high-risk, high-alert medications**. A new law was published in 2016 in Spain with the objective of improving safety regarding drug identification in OR.

OBJECTIVE: to describe the actions developed to adapt our environment to the new legislation and to analyse intravenous drug labelling in daily clinical practice.

METHODS

- A **committee** was created composed by **anaesthesia, surgeons, nursing** and **pharmacy** departments. Seven brainstorming sessions were carried out to apply the new law to our OR in clinical practice.
- A **transversal** and **observational** study was conducted during two days in a tertiary hospital in October 2019. Variables were collected by nurses from **reconstituted medication in bags and syringes**.

Variables

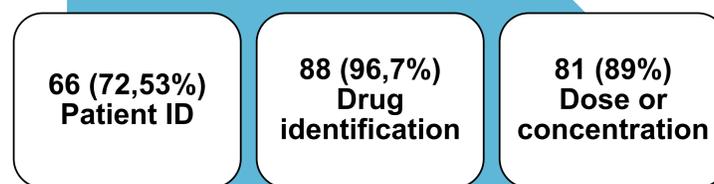
Bags	Syringes
Patient identification (name and ID)	Drug name
Drug name	Dose
Dose or concentration	
Total volume	
Administration route	

RESULTS

Autofill ID patients' labels and white labels to identified drugs should be **pre-printed** before the operation. In addition, pre-printed syringe labels were purchased complying with the colour code used in international system. The information was diffused to the departments in September 2019.

Total number of bags analysed: 91

55
(60,4%)
Correctly
identified



Total number of syringes analysed: 113



60
(53,1%)
Correctly
identified

CONCLUSIONS

Reconstituted medication labelling in our OR follows adequately the standards but there is room for improvement. New measures will be discussed in training sessions as the high relevance of patient identification, administration route and syringe doses and new preprinted syringe labels will be purchased. A new study will be conducted in November 2019.

