SAFETY PERCEIVED BY PROFESSIONALS AFTER THE INNOVATION OF THE MEDICATION USE CIRCUIT IN A NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

D. CANALES¹, C. GARCÍA-MUÑOZ¹, J.M. CARO¹, F. MARTINEZ¹, A. GONZÁLEZ¹, A. CASTRO¹, M.T. MORAL², I. NÚÑEZ², J.M. FERRARI¹, C.R. PALLÀS².

¹Pharmacy Department – Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, 28041 Madrid (Spain)
²Neonatology Department – Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, 28041 Madrid (Spain)
³mcanales@salud.madrid.org

BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Recently, a redesign has been taking place in the circuit of prescription, dispensing, preparation and administration of medications in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). These changes are aimed at improving the safety of the medication use process.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

NURSING STAFF

- 17 Questions
  A questionnaire was developed for nursing staff to assess the perceived safety in:
  - prescription by assisted electronic prescription (AEP)
  - dispensing through an automated medication dispensing system integrated with AEP
  - drug administration through smart pumps.
  - measures to be implemented to improve circuit safety

MEDICAL STAFF

- 14 Questions
  A questionnaire was developed for medical staff to assess the perceived safety in:
  - AEP
  - pharmaceutical validation
  - measures to be implemented to improve circuit safety

RESULTS

Response rate was of 60% (42 people filled out the questionnaire, 26 from nursing staff and 16 of medical staff)

Prescription

Nursing staff agreed that it provides greater safety than manual prescription, although 7.7% considered that the information is not always complete. Medical personnel, 88% consider that the AEP provides greater security.

Pharmaceutical validation

100% of medical staff believe that it is an improvement in the quality of care and that it provides security to the process.

Dispensation

96% consider that medicines are more easily found with respect to the plant medicine cabinet system and 85% consider that the integration with AEP allows unequivocally obtaining the prescribed medication.

Administration

85% of nursing staff consider that smart medication infusion pumps prevent exceeding therapeutic doses.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

The majority of nursing staff considers that the measures should focus on preparation (57.7%) and the medical staff considers that they should focus on administration (75%).

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE

The perception of safety by NICU staff of measures implemented is high. There are still areas for improvement such as preparation or administration. Administration by barcode is the measure most voted for both groups to work on in coming years.