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STANDARDISATION OF PROCESSES BY ELECTRONIC ASSISTED PRESCRIPTION PROGRAMME IN AN UNIVERSITY PAEDIATRIC HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND

Standardisation of processes and electronic assisted prescription programmes (EAPP) are essential tools to prevent medication errors, something especially relevant in vulnerable populations as children.

OBJECTIVE

To standardise the processes associated to pharmaceutical prescriptions of hospitalised paediatric patients in an university hospital through an EAPP, as previous step to the installation of automatic dispensing cabinets.

METHODS

Scope: **Tertiary university paediatric hospital** with intensive care (ICU) and paediatric onco-haematology units.

- Reference population: 557,576 inhabitants.
- Period: July/2018-June/2019.

Interventions performed:

- Meetings to agree on particularities of clinical units
- Paediatric drugs information in EAPP
- Configuration of EAPP login credentials
- Training activities for nurses/doctors (individualised and group sessions)
- Protocolisation of pharmaceutical prescription
- Standardisation of ICU infusions (fixed-concentrations).

From the simpler areas → more complex.

- As initial pilot, one area temporarily maintained double prescription system.
- Pharmacists performed pharmaceutical validation of prescriptions and spent part of his journey in the paediatric units in support of solving doubts/problems and detecting/correcting errors.

RESULTS

Around 1500 medication sheets reviewed/completed

Dosage regimens according to weight/paediatric age group/indication

Standardised administration schedules

Medication alerts

Login users reviewed:

- 50 residents
- 87 doctors
- 160 nurses.

Training:

- 2 general sessions
- 8 group training sessions for doctors (1-2 per unit).
- Individualised training was done on demand

110 hospitalisation beds

100% pharmaceutical validation

22 protocols designed to standardise prescriptions, mainly in paediatric surgery and onco-haematology areas

82 fixed-concentrations intravenous infusions for prescription/administration of drugs in the ICU (preparation, conservation, stability, dosage and administration regimens).



- General paediatrics
- Paediatric surgery
- Intensive Care Unit

CONCLUSIONS

The EAPP was successfully implemented in the paediatric hospital with high degree of standardisation and validation of pharmaceutical prescriptions, which would improve patients safety and decrease medication errors.

In future studies, we intend to analyse this positive effect.



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References

- Uptodate®
- Pediamecum®
- Micromedex®
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