A PHARMACIST IN THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY ONCOLOGY TEAM

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What was done?
The pharmacy of the hospital supplies four hospitals with cytotoxic infusions. In the past it was found that the integration of a pharmacist in the oncology team brings benefits.

Why was it done?
The aim was to evaluate the participation of a pharmacist in the multidisciplinary oncology team. The team consists of the clinical pharmacist, medical oncologists, residents, oncology nurses, dieticians, medical documentation assistant and a clinical psychologist.

How was it done?
All chemotherapy protocols were electronically prescribed in CATO® (computer aided therapy for oncology) and included cytotoxic drugs and concomitant medications.

In addition to production in the cytostatic unit the pharmacist participated in the daily morning meetings, the two-week tumor boards and bimonthly team meetings.

Pharmacist interventions (PI) took place during the meetings and were also communicated by phone and mails.

Data were collected from May 2014 to September 2015.

What was achieved?
3335 cycles of chemotherapies were prescribed and 914 interventions were recorded.

Medication errors occur despite electronic prescription of standardized protocols.

In this observational study we demonstrated the significant role of the clinical pharmacist as a part of the multidisciplinary oncology team.

What is next?
A pharmacist will continue to be part of the multidisciplinary oncology team in the future.

Pharmaceutical Interventions (PI)
May 2014 - September 2015

Clinical pharmacists with special experience in oncology play an important role to identify errors in oncology.

Pharmaceutical cooperation
May 2014 - September 2015

The supply by a pharmacist means to optimize treatment protocols and procedures and improving patient safety.

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References:
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