**Background, Methods**

The growing use of supplementary products (herbal remedies, food supplements, OTC medicines etc.) poses an unignorable and poorly explored risk to hospital patients. These products may affect the safety and efficacy of the medical treatment therefore require increased awareness from healthcare professionals. In our previous study [1] we found that 171 (85.5%) of 200 interviewed hospital patients took at least one supplementary product in the two weeks preceding the study.

**Results**

We faced the following difficulties in the course of interaction screening:

- There are significant differences between the databases, as to which interactions are included and how their severity is rated. These differences are greater with drug-supplement interactions (see Tables 1 and 2).

- Using only one database, relevant interactions may remain unexplored.

- The overwhelmingly high number of interaction alerts makes the use of databases tedious and impractical.

- There are ingredients that cannot be found in one or the other of the databases.

**Conclusion**

The influence of supplementary products on medical treatment cannot be overlooked. The method of interaction analysis used in this study is too time-consuming for everyday practice. The search for interactions is only effective if the database used for it meets the specifications listed above. Supplement use should be controlled by clinical pharmacists and included in patient documentation.

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