OPTIMIZATION IN THE USE OF DRUGS FOR AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

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BACKGROUND:
Antiangiogenic drugs are the treatment of choice for age-related macular degeneration (AMD) which causes a high impact due to the high cost of vials and absence of commercially syringes with the necessary dose.

PURPOSE:
To compare the efficiency of alternative therapies available for the treatment of AMD optimising vials to prepare syringes with exact doses.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

Ranibizumab
Medical prescriptions
Computer records of the pharmacotechnical unit

Aflibercept
3 syringes of each vial

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Ranibizumab: Not included in hospital yet

To compare treatments and efficiency, we have considered:
-The same patients
-The same number of syringes of aflibercept than ranibizumab

Variables studied:
Number of patients
Number of syringes
Cost of vials
Cost of syringes

RESULTS:
151 patients 7,8 syringes/patient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Syringes</th>
<th>Cost of syringes</th>
<th>Vials</th>
<th>Cost of vials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ranibizumab</td>
<td>1179 (of 393 vials)</td>
<td>271.739'85 €</td>
<td>1179</td>
<td>815.219'55 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aflibercept</td>
<td>1179 (of 295 vials)</td>
<td>190.139'3 €</td>
<td>1179</td>
<td>759.912'66 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The difference between treatments is 55,306'89 €

CONCLUSION:
The optimization of the ranibizumab and aflibercept vials saves money for the health system, as well as provides greater accuracy and safety when preparing these sterile syringes in the Pharmacy Service. Assuming the equivalence in effectiveness, we propose aflibercept like the most efficient therapy.