USE OF CONTRAINDICATED DRUGS IN PARKINSON’S DISEASE PATIENTS

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BACKGROUND
Evidence suggests that inappropriate drugs are prescribed in parkinson’s disease patients in emergency department.

OBJECTIVE
To estimate the prevalence of contraindicated drugs use in Parkinson’s disease patients at the emergency department.

METHODS
- An observational, retrospective study of patients previously treated with antiparkinsonian drugs who were admitted to hospital from emergency department (ED) were included.
- Patients were detected in the reconciliation progress in ED.
- Each patient admission from ED in the study period was checked.
- Treatment data were obtained from pharmaceutical and medical managing program PCH® and clinical history.

RESULTS
We evaluated 126 patients (female: 52%, mean age: 82±1 years).

In 44% of them, inappropriate medicines were prescribed.

61% of these contraindicated drugs were administered to the patients.

CONCLUSIONS
- Results showed a high prevalence of metoclopramide and haloperidol use in Parkinson’s disease patients.
- Inappropriate use of potentially unsafe medicines must be a key issue in medical and pharmaceutical care.
- Alternatives with no extrapyramidal effects should be considered to minimise the risk of this patient group.

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