A NEW PHARMACEUTICAL CARE PROGRAM FOR COVID-19 PATIENTS TREATED WITH PAXLOVID®: IMPLEMENTATION AND SAFETY OUTCOMES REPORTED

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Paxlovid® was granted an Emergency Use Authorization for the treatment of **mild to moderate COVID-19**.

However, the use of Paxlovid® with certain other drugs in high-risk patients may result in potentially significant **DDI** and **ADE**.

AIM AND OBJECTIVE

To assess the impact of a **comprehensive pharmaceutical care program** (CPCP) focusing on the prevention of DDI and ADE, initiated in a hospital pharmacy for patients treated with Paxlovid®.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Quasi-experimental study performed between **1 of May and 31 of July of 2022**.
- Pharmacists were responsible for proposing COVID-19 local guidelines to physicians, monitoring its adherence, managing DDI and ADE, providing patient education, and evaluating health outcomes.
- A telephone consultation was carried out 10 days after the end of Paxlovid® treatment.
- Potential DDI were detected according to Lexi-Comp® and Liverpool COVID-19 databases.
- Paxlovid-related ADE reported were graded according to Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events, version 4**.**

RESULTS

140 patients (60.7% outpatients) initiated Paxlovid® and were enrolled in the CPCP.

Adherence to local guidelines for the use of Paxlovid® was **100%.**

Pharmacists made 267 interventions that led to the prevention of **177 ADE** (1.3/patient), **54.2%** of which were grade G-H (NCC MERP classification).

DRUG-DRUG INTERACTIONS:

232 DDI were detected in 79.3% patients

61.2% of DDI required specific management:

- ✓ **34.5% discontinuation** of the concomitant drug
- ✓ **65.5% dose adjustment**

ADVERSE DRUG EVENTS:

At day 10, **96 ADEs** were reported in 42 patients (**26.1% of which were grade ≥3**)

Most common ADEs were dysgeusia and diarrhea

Premature discontinuation of Paxlovid® due to ADEs was necessary in 4 (**2.8%**) patients.

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

The implementation of a CPCP developed by hospital pharmacists for patients treated with Paxlovid® was an **effective approach for monitoring adherence to guidelines, managing DDI, providing patient education, and evaluating safety outcomes**.

Paxlovid® showed an **acceptable safety profile**.

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