USE OF ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IN A THIRD-LEVEL HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND

Infectious diseases are one of the most frequent reasons for consultation in the Emergency Department (ED), as well as one of the main causes of mortality and admission in the hospital, so it is important to optimize their use.

METHOD

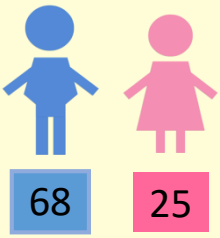
Cross-sectional study of all antimicrobial prescriptions of patients waiting in ED for admission in hospital from **February to March 2018**.

It was analyzed if the patient after admission maintained the same empirical antimicrobial treatment and if it was correct according to the microbial sensibility data from the sample studied. Data were collected from electronic health records and prescription systems.

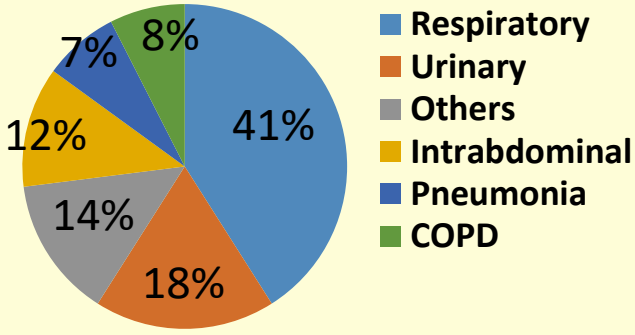
PURPOSE

To describe and to analyze the prescription of antimicrobials prescribed empirically in the ED of a third level hospital and to analyze if microbiological samples are collected in order to stablish a targeted treatment.

93 patients
mean age 70 years



Type of infections



RESULTS

After admission

-**34%** of patients maintained empirical antimicrobial treatment.

- **51%** treatments were changed to another agent.

- **15%** were discharged from the hospital.

Microbiological samples were collected before treatment in **48% patients**.

According to the laboratory results, the empirical antimicrobial was correct in **63% patients.**

CONCLUSIONS

More than **35%** of the empirically prescribed treatments were inadequate according to the laboratory sample results. In order to prescribe suitable antimicrobial treatments, it is important to take microbiological samples in advance to establish a targeted treatment, that could be optimized by a multidisciplinary group (program for optimizing the use of antimicrobials -PROA-) in ED.

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