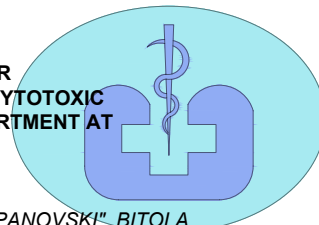


**PHARMACEUTICAL INITIATIVE FOR
APPROPRIATE HANDLING WITH CYTOTOXIC
DRUG ON NON-ONCOLOGY DEPARTMENT AT
CLINICAL HOSPITAL BITOLA**



T.DIMITROVSKA MANOJLOVIKJ
CLINICAL HOSPITAL "D-R TRIFUN PANOVSKI", BITOLA,
R.MACEDONIA

WHAT WAS DONE?

These 4 written statements were created:

1. Notification/instructions for handling with cytotoxic agent,
2. Instructions for hygiene of the toilets used by patients with cytotoxic therapy and disposal of toxic waste on gynecology and obstetrics ward,
3. Instructions for a woman receiving Methotrexate injection,
4. Standard Operating Procedure for intramuscular application of Methotrexate for nurses at the gynecology-obstetric ward.

All statements were multiplied and disseminated to all departments on the ward. In November 2014 during verification of daily drugs supply of Gynecology-obstetrics ward I detected a package of Methotrexate injections in the same transporting container together with other drugs. I immediately contacted the head ward nurse, made control of the handling of drugs on the ward, especially at the department for pathological pregnancy. The young responsible departmental nurse, with a short practice experience at the pathological pregnancy department, unfortunately, consequently demonstrated lack of awareness for the classification of Methotrexate as a hazardous drug-cytotoxic and should be handled with special care. Even though a drug isn't given for cancer, should be still treated as a hazardous. Explanations were given to all, at that time present nurses, gynecologists and hygiene maintenance staff at the department.

As there are no QUAPOS implemented in our country lots of hospital pharmacist with an enormous effort are endeavoring to raise the awareness of the authorities from the Ministry of Health, oncologists and other doctors using the cytotoxics, as well as the nurses and other medical staff involved in the care of the patients receiving cytotoxic therapy.

WHY WAS IT DONE?

To highlight the classification of this drug, danger of side effects of the drug occurrence even in patients not receiving it, due to intoxication when handled inappropriate, the cautions and measures that should be undertaken for minimizing the risk/danger of occupational exposure, environmental pollution with inappropriate managing of the waste and spill control.

Limit Nursing Exposure

HOW WAS IT DONE?

Difficulties with persuading departmental staff for the risk of occupational hazard, intoxication of other patients not receiving that drug and environmental pollution particularly danger at extravasation in this class of drugs when handled inappropriate, were surpassed with several times repeating the explanations and disseminating of 4 statements.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

Appropriate handling with cytotoxic drug, improving of patient care and protecting the pollution of environment.

WHAT NEXT?

Frequent controls on the drug handling on all hospital wards for prevention of irregularities and ensuring safe medicines application.

References and/or Acknowledgements

QUAPOS4

Keywords
CYTOTOXIC
HANDLING
APPROPRIATE
I have no potential
conflict of interest to
disclose

Now
 Later