

ANALYSIS OF THE UNIT DOSE SYSTEM OF MEDICATION DISTRIBUTION IN MENTAL HEALTH PHARMACY

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

The unit dose system of medication distribution (UDDS) is a pharmacy coordinated method of dispensing and controlling medications in healthcare settings. In our hospital, medications contained in single unit packages are delivered for each patient by doses (sorted by administration time) for a 24 h period.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

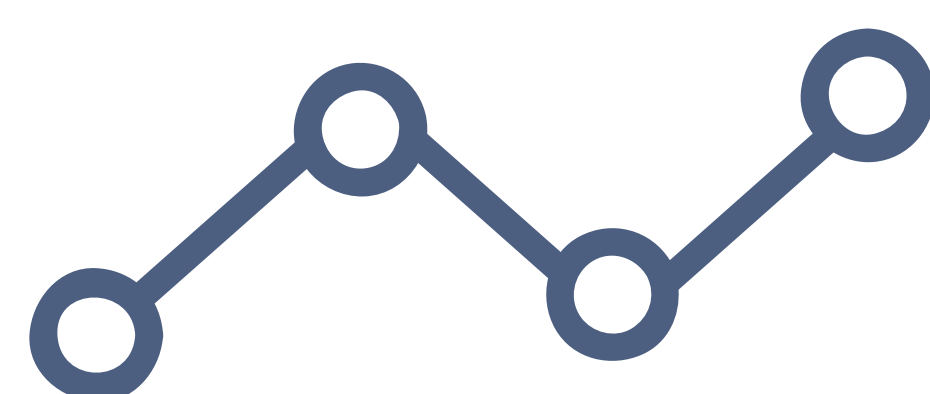
To detect and analyse errors in the cart-fill process in a UDDS by doses.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Prospective observacional study during the month of April 2021.
- The errors found in the cart-fill process in a UDDS by doses were assessed.
- According to physicians prescriptions, medication was daily prepared by doses for each patient for a 24-hour period.
- Patients were randomly selected.
- Their medication, prepared and double-checked by the pharmacy staff, was reviewed by a pharmacist. ✓

Variables

- Number of patients
- Prescription lines
- Units of medicines
- Detected errors

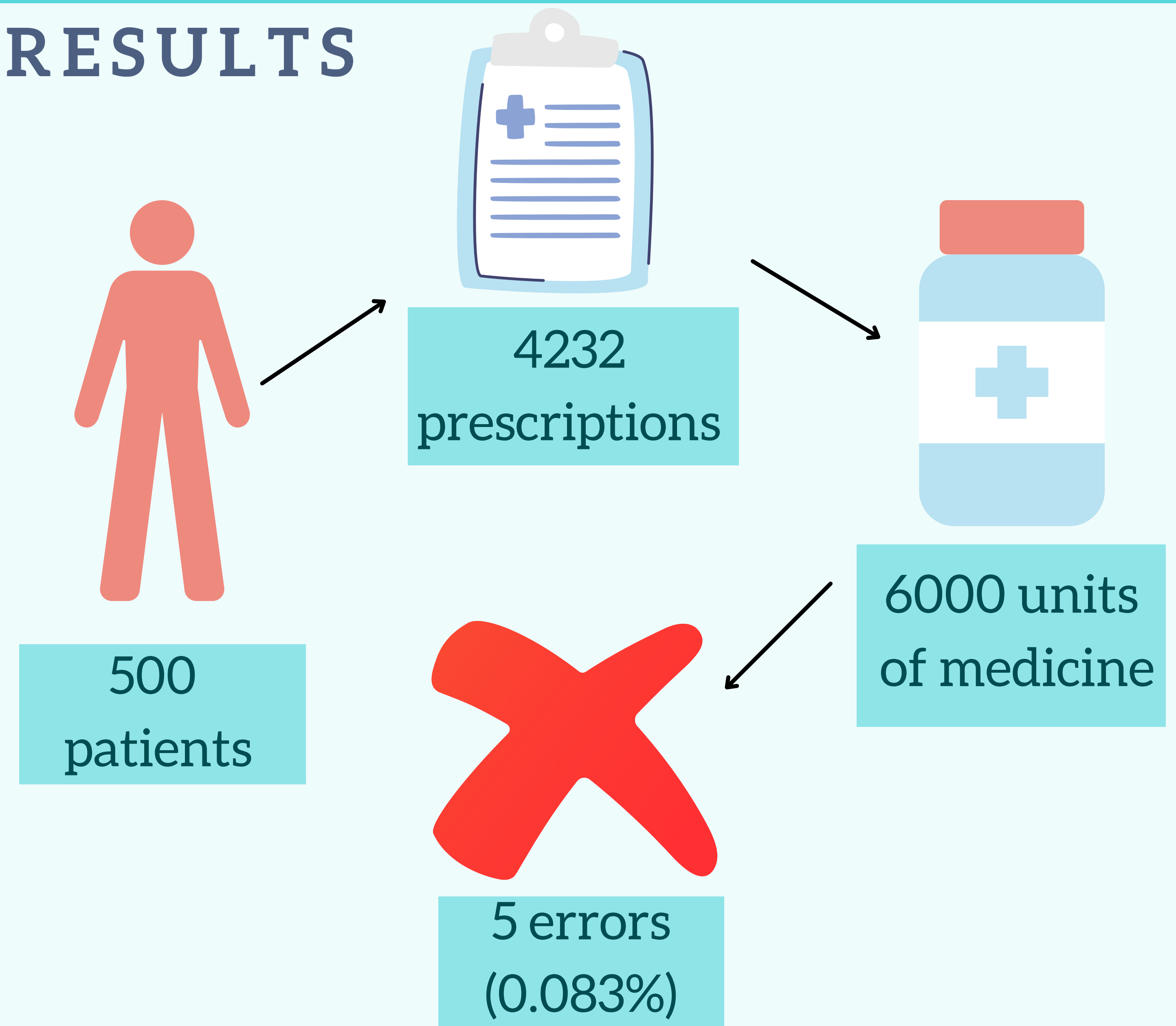


Error classification

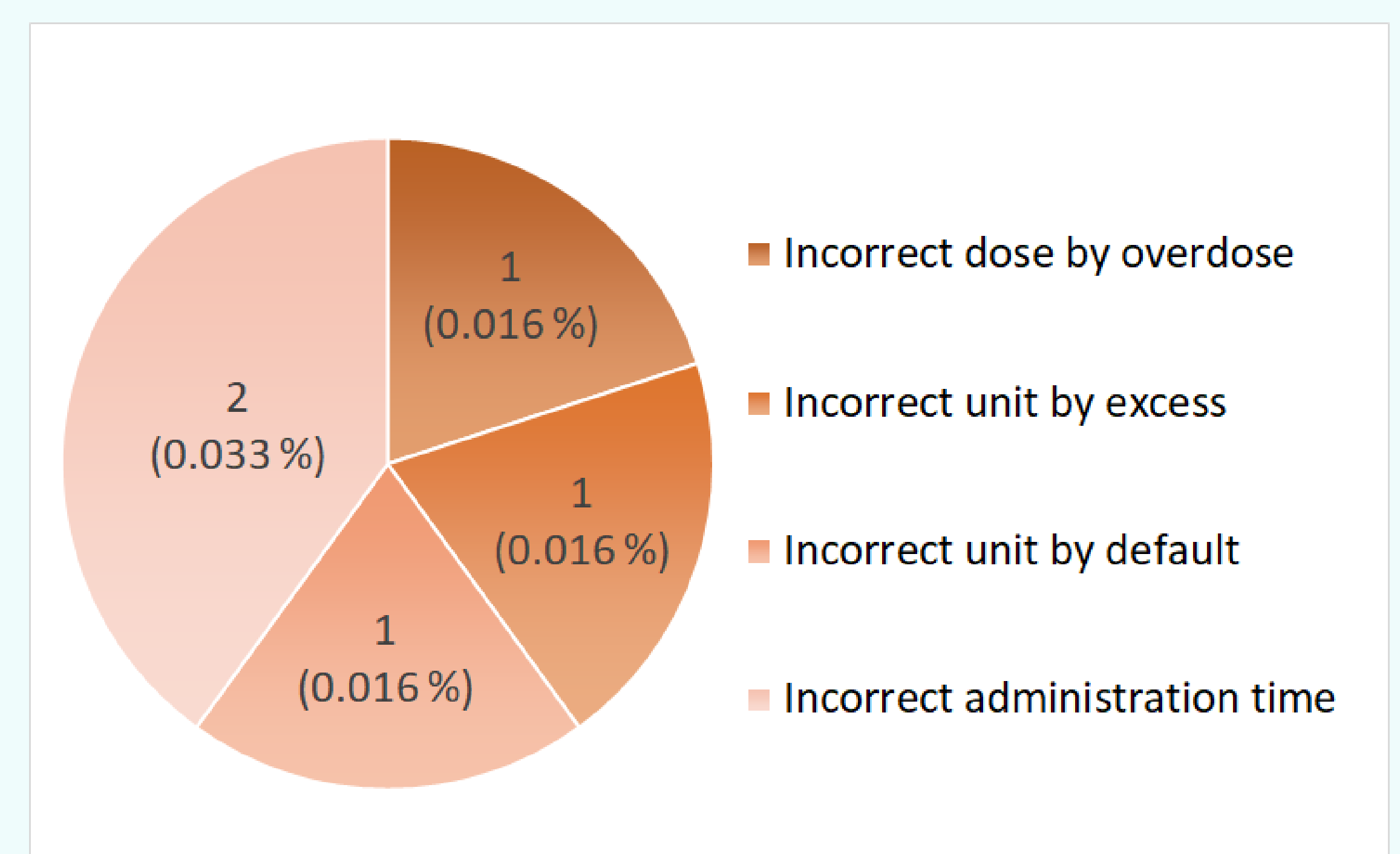
Errors were classified into four possible categories:

- Incorrect dose (over or under)
- Incorrect unit of medicine (excess, default or absence)
- Medicine not prescribed
- Incorrect administration time

RESULTS



The errors detected were the following:



CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

- The review of the medication carts before their arrival at the Clinical Units allows the detection of potential medication errors in their preparation that may affect the safety of the patient.
- The percentage of error obtained indicates the degree of quality related to the medication dispensing system. In this case, the error rate is low, although it could be lower in case of automation of the process instead of manual preparation.