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BACKGROUND

The WHO recommends implementing measures to reduce adverse drugs events (ADEs) in patients with polypharmacy who are receiving treatment with high alert drugs. In Spain, we have access to a list of high-alert medications for patients with chronic diseases (HAMC list). Recently, a panel of experts had selected a set of triggers specifically for detecting ADEs in elderly patients with multi-morbidity TRIGGER-CHRON.

PURPOSE

To evaluate the effectiveness of the TRIGGER-CHRON (TC) for identifying ADEs that are caused by drugs included in the HAMC list, in chronic, multi-morbidity elderly patients (CMEP).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Retrospective, observational, multicenter study (12 Spanish hospital)

Chronic patients with multimorbidity > 65 years.
Length of stay > 48 h in Internal Medicine or Geriatric hospital units

RANDOMIZED

5 patients weekly (period : 12 weeks)

TRIGGER-CHRON

Medical record review → to identify ADEs

ADEs were analyzed, and the medications involved were registered.
ADEs caused by drugs included in the HAMC list were recorded.

TC includes the following triggers:

- 11 care module.
- 10 antidotes/treatment.
- 11 medication concentrations.
- 18 abnormal laboratory values.
- 1 emergency department.

RESULTS

720 patients

215 ADE

164 (76%)
Caused by HAMC list

Drug involved	ADE
Corticosteroids	38
Loop diuretics	30
Opioids	26
Oral anticoagulants	20
Antipsychotics	15
Spiro lactone/ eplerenone	9
Antiplatelets	7
Benzodiazepines	7
Insulins	5
β- adrenergic blockers	3
Oral hypoglycemic	2
Digoxin	1
Immunosuppressants	1
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs	1

CONCLUSIONS

The TC has allowed for detecting a large number of ADEs, more than 75% were caused by a drug included on the HAMC list. This would indicate the usefulness of this tool for determining ADEs at institutions and to monitor the impact of future interventions carried out.

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