

MEDICATION RECONCILIATION IN AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

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Background:

- Medication errors lead to higher morbidity, mortality, and expenditure.
- The likelihood of mistakes is higher in Emergency Departments.

Purpose:

To determine the incidence, the type of discrepancies and reconciliation errors (RE) upon admission to an Emergency Department, and the drugs involved.

Methods:

- Prospective observational study, including patients admitted to the Emergency Service pending hospitalization, during 3 weeks (9-27 April 2018).
- Program coverage indicator, quality prescription indicators and medication reconciliation process indicators were calculated.
- The medication reconciliation process (MRP) was carried out through a clinical interview with the patient/caregiver, and the data obtained from the electronic clinical history and the primary care electronic records.

The variables collected were:

Sex & age	Type of RE detected according to the Consensus Statement of the SEFH* and drugs involved.
Number of home medications	Number of discrepancies: - Justified by the patient's clinical evolution (DJ). - Not justified requiring clarification (DNJ).

*Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacy

Results:

- MRP was performed in 61 of the 216 patients admitted (coverage rate of 28.24%).
- The 55.74% were men, with an average age of 70.61 ± 14.86 years (72.13% > 65 years).
- The median of home medications was 8 [range 1-18].
- 93 discrepancies were detected, of which 22.58% were DJ, while the remaining 77.42% were considered DNJ.
- The quality indicators of the prescription were determined, obtaining the following results: 57.38% patients with RE, 42% medications with RE, and 1.20 RE per patient.
- Regarding quality indicators of the MRP, the detected RE were 58.33%, and were classified into: 37 (88.10%) medication omissions, 4 (9.52%) dose errors, and 1 (2.38%) wrong medication.

The drugs involved were:

Number	Drug	Number	Drug	Number	Drug
19 (45.24%)	Lipid modifying agents	5 (11.90%)	Antidepressants	4 (9.52%)	Thyroid hormones
4 (9.52%)	Drugs used in benign prostatic hyperplasia	2 (4.76%)	Antipsychotics	2 (4.76%)	Anti-glaucoma drugs and miotics
2 (4.76%)	Insulins & analogues	1 (2.38%)	Beta-blocking agents	1 (2.38%)	Digitalis glycosides
1 (2.38%)	Organic nitrates	1 (2.38%)	Vitamin D & analogues		

Conclusions:

The RE affected more than half of the patients admitted to the Emergency Department, the most prevalent discrepancy was the omission of medication and the drugs most implicated were statins.

