

EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF RIBAVIRIN USED FOR RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS TREATMENT IN HEMATOLOGICAL PATIENTS

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Background

Ribavirin is a drug used to treat hepatitis, but it is also used (off-label) for the treatment of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

Purpose

To evaluate the efficacy and safety of ribavirin in the use for RSV treatment in hematological patients.

Material and methods

Retrospective study during the seasonal months of RSV. Parameters analyzed were: sex, age, dose and treatment duration, laboratory confirmation of RSV, hemoglobin, LDH, bilirubin, and need for transfusions.

The collected data were obtained by reviewing medical records, The collected data were obtained by reviewing medical records and consultation of Savac® prescription and validation program.

Resultados



Median age 49 years

The dose for all patients was 200 mg/day on the first two days and 1200 mg/day until the end of treatment

EFFICACY	
Median days of treatment	14
Virologic eradication	100%

SAFETY

Regarding to safety, none of the patients presented symptoms of hemolytic anemia. hemoglobin remained constant throughout the treatment, with a median of 88 g/L at baseline and 91 g/L and 86 g/L at 7 and 14 days of treatment, respectively, with LDH constant at 400 IU/L throughout treatment and regular indirect bilirubin levels. Six (67%) of the patients received blood transfusion, but all of them had already received transfusions before ribavirin treatment. None of the patients presented symptoms of hemolytic anemia, and no adverse effect was detected because ribavirin.

Conclusion

Treatment with ribavirin for RSV proved to be an effective treatment in our patients. Since hemoglobin levels remained constant during treatment, and patients requiring transfusion was due to haematological disease, treatment with ribavirin at this dose appears to be a safe treatment.