

OPTIMISING RESOURCES IN COMPOUNDING PREPARATIONS: LITTLE MEASURES AIMED AT REDUCING COSTS

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BACKGROUND

The growing use of expensive drugs has been related with the introduction of new strategies to optimise the economic resources in hospital pharmacy. Some compounding sterile preparations of expensive drugs are reconstituted in medical wards. Frequently, available preparations don't match with patient's dosage, therefore a part of the reconstituted drug reconstitution is lost.

PURPOSE

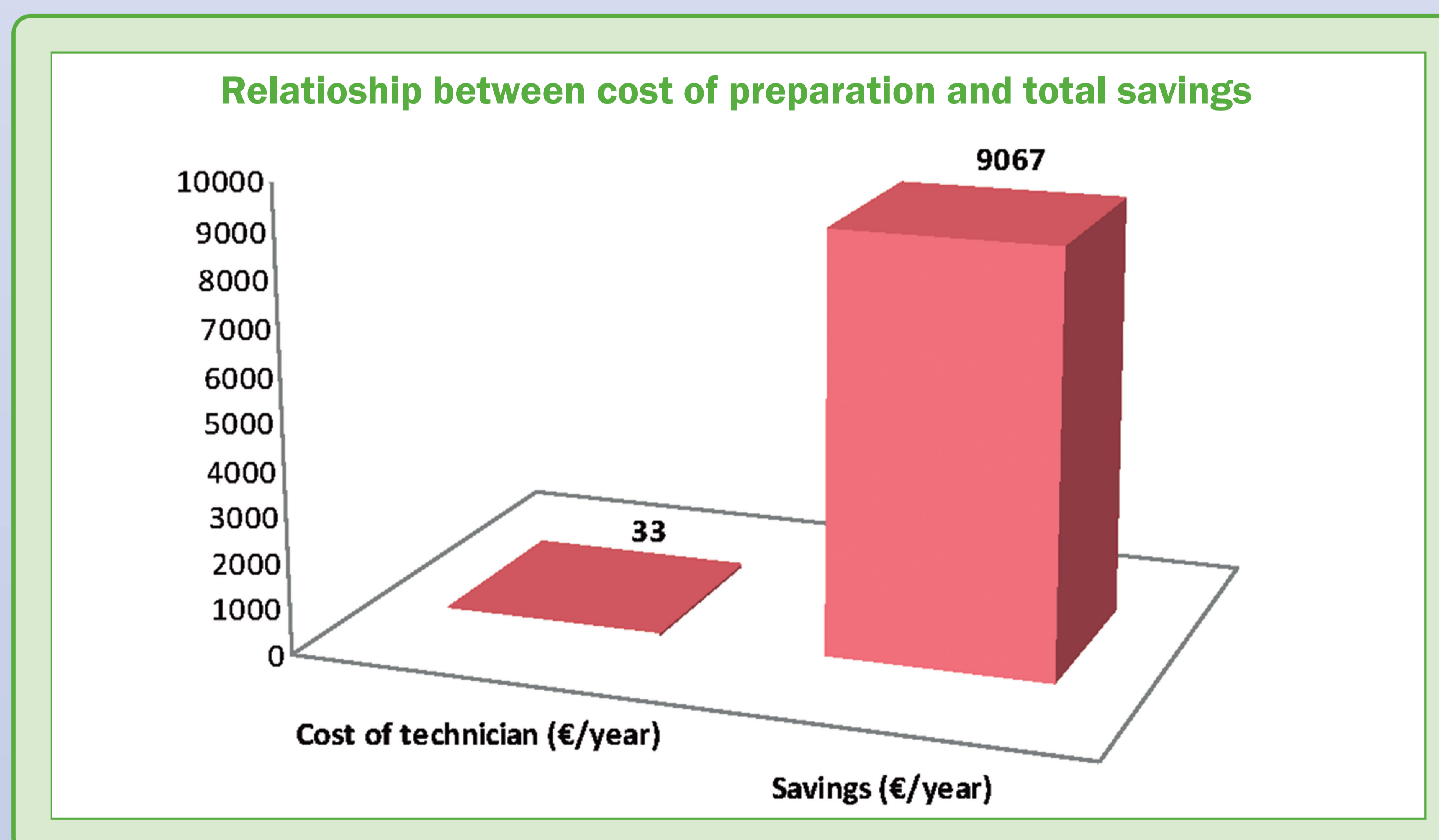
The aim of the study is to assess the economic impact of pharmacy reconstitution of these compounding preparations to improve the effectiveness in the process of drug reconstitution.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

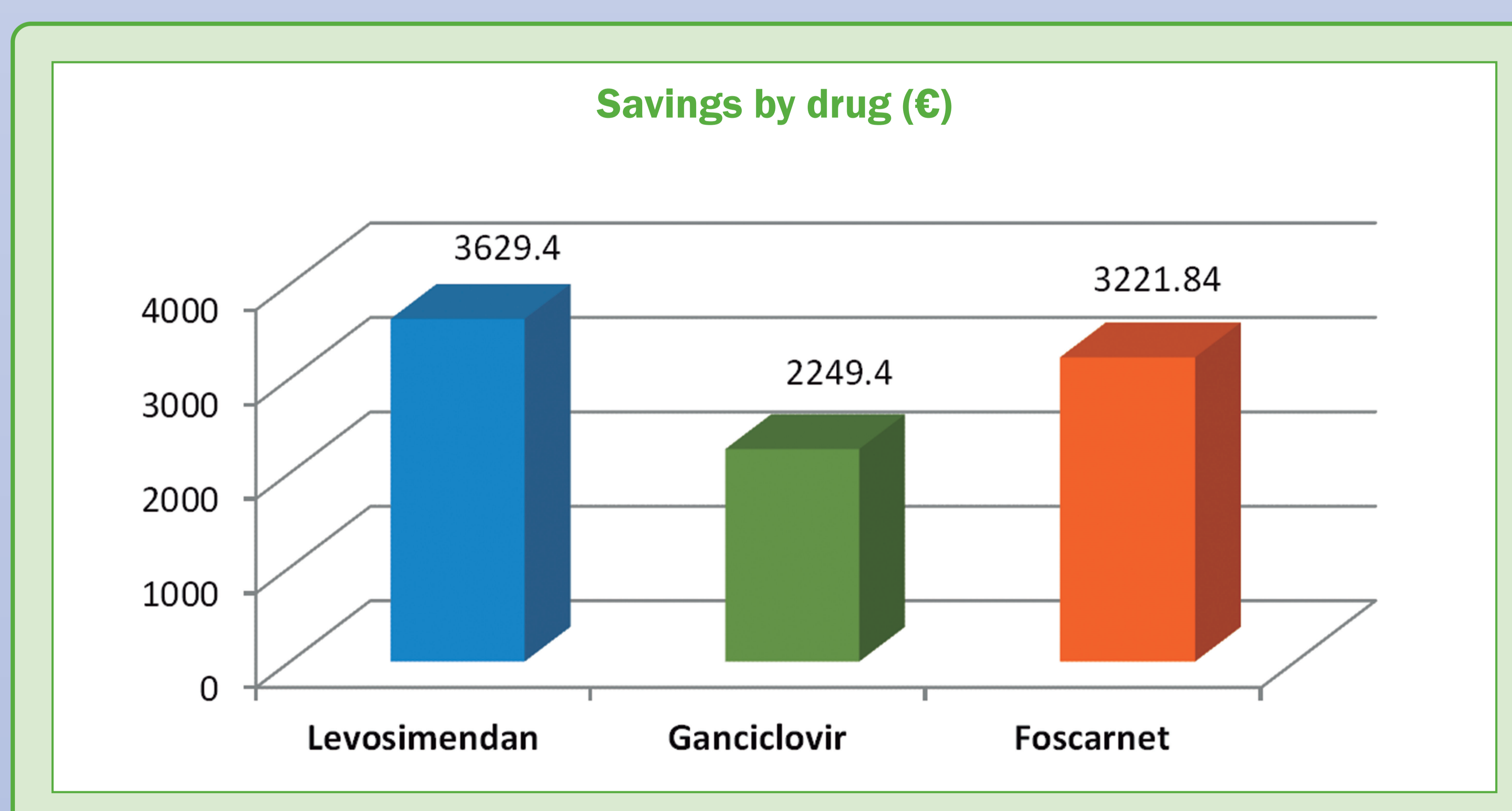
A prospective study was carried out in a university hospital between June 2013 and June 2014. We studied drugs reconstituted in a laminar fluid cabinet (LFC) excluding cytotoxics, biological drugs and parenteral nutritions. Additionally, we reviewed the most expensive drugs reconstituted in out-patient setting, choose after a pilot economical study. These drugs were reconstituted by pharmacy staff by volumetric method of preparation instead manufacturer instructions, using the entire volume of the vial, including overfill and without discarding drug leftovers. Data collected: number of treatments, type of drugs, time of preparation and savings.

RESULTS

The most expensive drug reconstituted in outpatients wards was levosimendan. In LFC were ganciclovir and foscarnet. Total of treatments: 44, levosimendan 12 (27.27%), ganciclovir 26 (59.09%), foscarnet 6 (13.64%). Savings: 9,100.68€; levosimendan: 3,629.4 (39.88%), ganciclovir 2,249€ (59.09%), foscarnet: 3,221.84€.



Pharmacy compounding time: 5(3-8) minutes. Regarding to technician annual salary, average cost per preparation is 0.75(0.45-1.35)€. Total cost of technician per year: 33€. Total savings: 9,067.68€.



CONCLUSIONS

Pharmacy staff preparation represents an efficient strategy. The estimated annual savings were up to 9000€, only with 40€ of investments. The implementation of strategic cost management in the process of drug reconstitution is key to improve efficiency and profitability.