

PHARMACEUTICAL VALIDATION OF TREATMENTS: FROM THE PHARMACY OR AT THE HOSPITAL WARDS?

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BACKGROUND:

Hospital pharmacists validate many treatments per day, most times with difficulty of knowing hospitalized patient's current situation and with little interaction with the medical team and nurses who care for these patients.

OBJECTIVES:

To describe the differences in pharmacist interventions when validation of treatments is performed in the hospital ward and when it is performed from the Pharmacy Department.

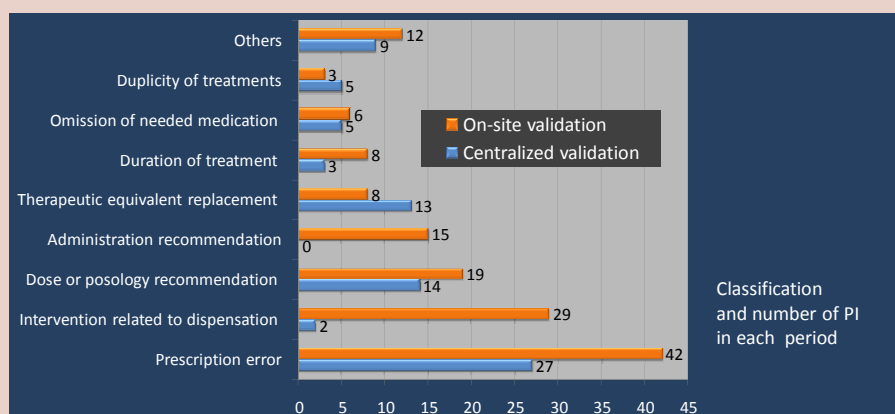
METHODS:

Prospective-retrospective descriptive observational study. Pharmacist interventions in a particular medical ward were recorded during one month when transcription and validation of admitted patients' medication took place in the hospitalization area (on-site validation). They were compared with pharmacist interventions recorded during the previous month in the same ward, where transcription and validation took place from the pharmacy (centralized validation).

RESULTS:

	Centralized validation period	On-site validation period
Pharmaceutical Interventions (PI)	78	142
Hospitalized patients in the ward	203	174
% Patients who received ≥ 1 PI	31 %	41 %

Pharmaceutical interventions	Pharmaceutical interventions	
	Centr.	On-site
Prescription error	35 %	30 %
Intervention related to dispensation	3 %	20 %
Dose or posology recommendation	18 %	13 %
Administration recommendation	0 %	11 %
Therapeutic equivalent replacement	17 %	6 %
Duration of treatment	4 %	6 %
Omission of needed medication	6 %	4 %
Duplicity of treatments	6 %	2 %
Others	12 %	8 %



CONCLUSIONS:

- Validation of prescriptions in the hospital ward allows the pharmacist to make more recommendations and interventions related to patients' treatment.
- The main differences in the type of intervention are related to medication administration and dispensing.
- It is important to promote the presence of pharmacists in health care teams in order to provide patients with the best possible health care.