

REVIEW OF INTRAVENOUS IRON PRESCRIPTIONS: FOCUS ON DOSING

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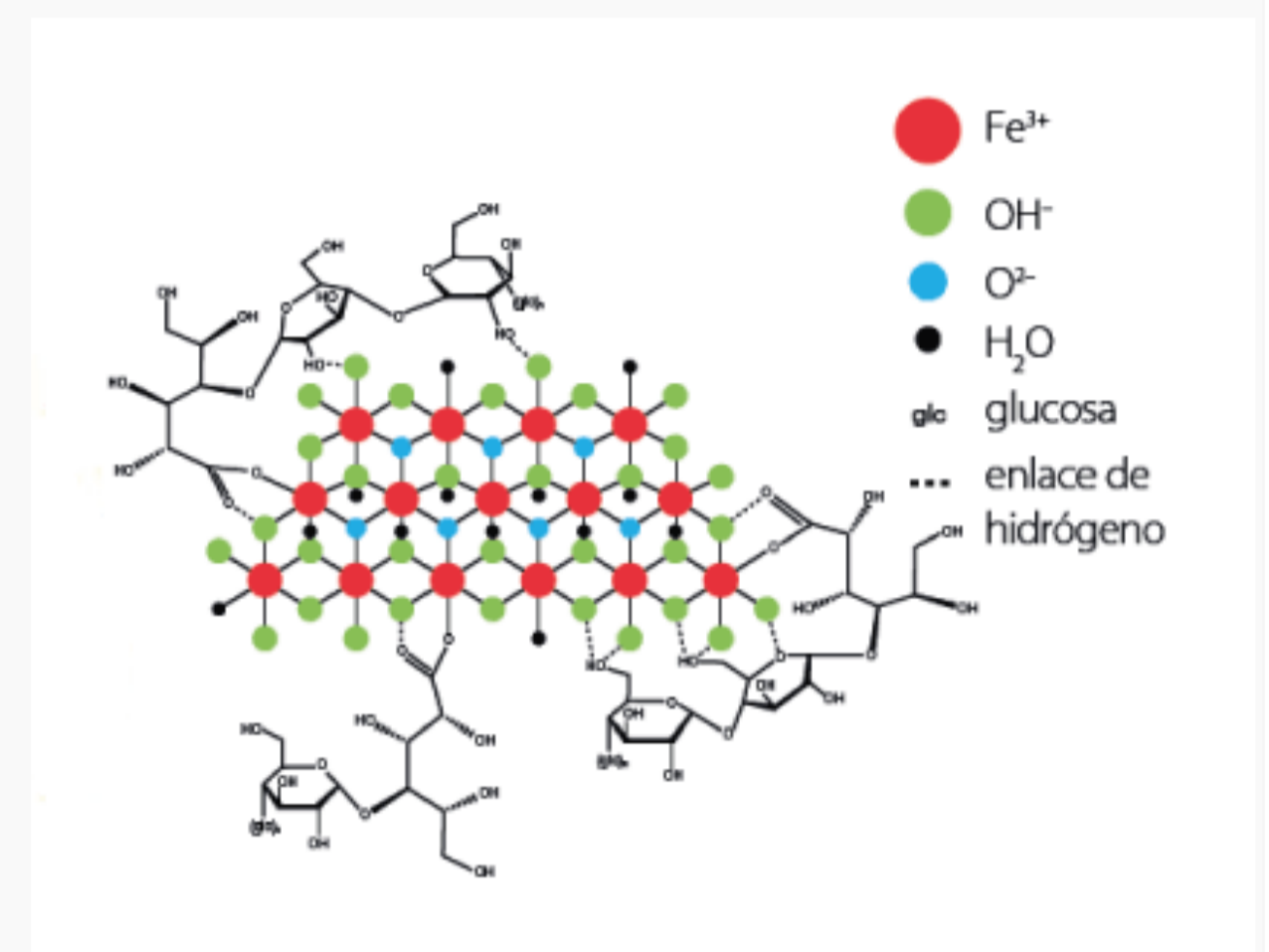


OBJECTIVES

Ferric carboxymaltose (Ferinject®) is included in our drug formulary for patients in need of rapid iron replacement. Iron replacement is usually calculated using the Ganzoni formula. Haemoglobin (Hb) values should be reassessed in four weeks.

Purpose:

- To compare dose of iron prescribed with the dose recommended in the Ganzoni formula
- Assess Hb values after iron therapy.



METHODS

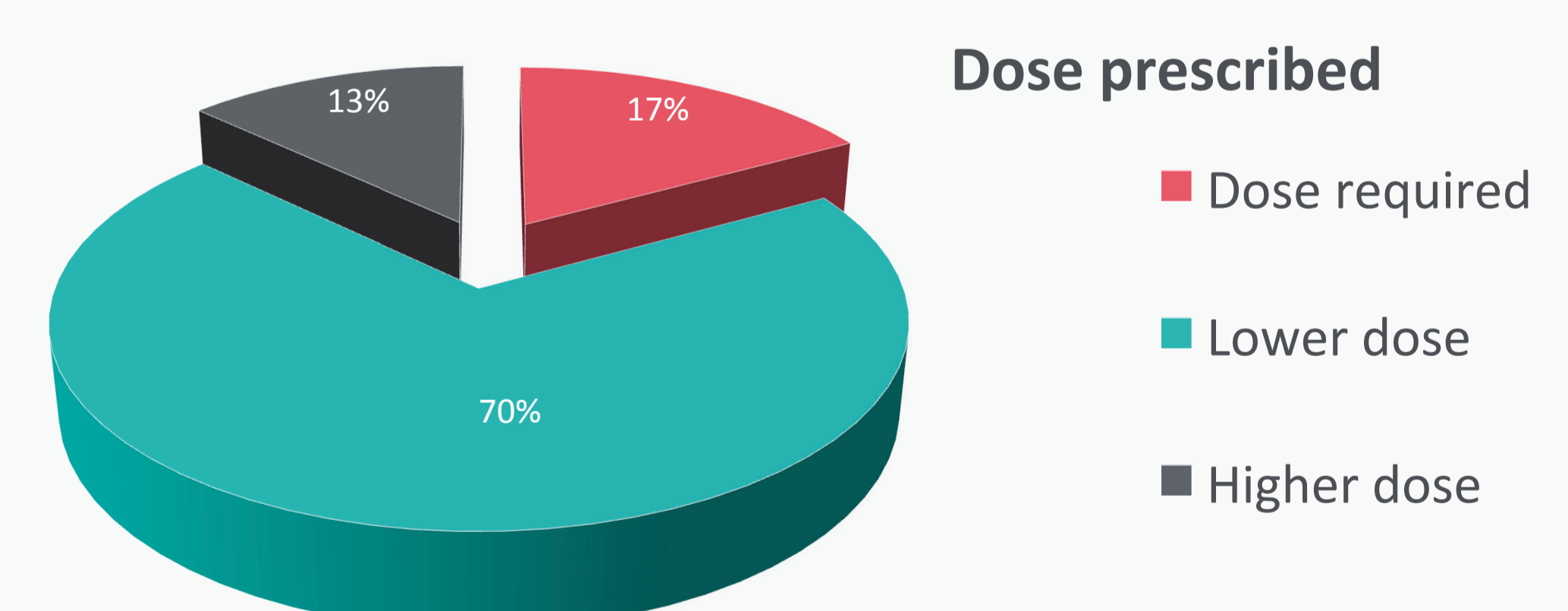
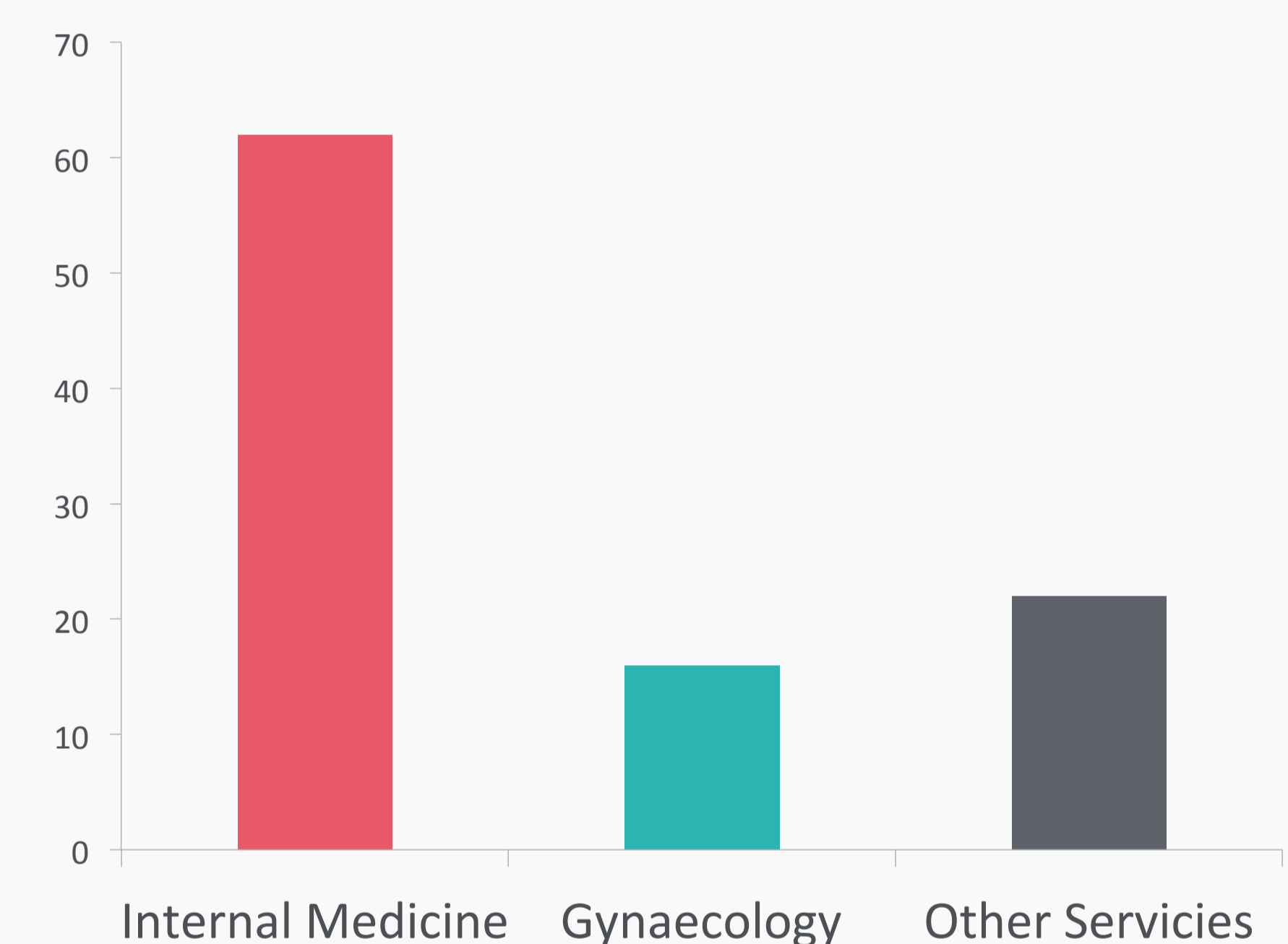
Retrospective descriptive study in a 350 bedded tertiary-level hospital.

- From **October 2015 to January 2016** all the patients receiving IV iron therapy were analysed .
- Gender, age, weight, Hb and ferritin (Fer) pre iv iron infusion and post infusion, iv iron dose prescribed, treatment indication and prescriber's clinical specialty were recorded for each patient.
- Iron deficiency was calculated using **Ganzoni's formula**.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- ✓ **64 patients** were treated with IV iron therapy
- ✓ **59% were women** (average age 60 years).
- ✓ **Internal medicine** was the main clinical specialty with 62% of the total cases. Anaemia the main indication, followed by **Gynaecology** with 16% of patients and postpartum haemorrhage diagnosis.
- ✓ According to **Ganzoni formula** :
 - **17% received the dose required.**
 - **83% received a different dose.**
- ✓ Average Hb pre infusion was 9g/dl (n=59) and ferritin 104,3 ng/ml (only obtained in 36% of the patients).
- ✓ Average Hb post infusion was 10.5 g/dl (36% of the patients).



CONCLUSIONS

- Doses prescribed doesn't correspond with Ganzoni's formula, and that most patients received lower doses.
- Values of Hb post iron therapy couldn't be found in most patients and were below the recommended target.
- These results highlight the need to create a protocol to ensure correct dosing of intravenous iron and to improve patient's safety.



REFERENCES

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