WRITTEN PATIENT INFORMATION: ANALYSING ITS QUALITY

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Background

Health systems promote patient involvement in healthcare decisions. In order to achieve this, patients need information and often this is supplied in written support, so that the readability of the text becomes a quality indicator.

Purpose

To analyze the readability of patient information in hospital treatment provided by the Pharmacy Department and to ensure that information is suitable for patients, regardless of their socio-cultural level.

Material and Methods

All patient information sheets designed by the Pharmacy Service in 2015 to onco-haematological treatments (oral) were analyzed and compared against the same number of oncological information sheets designed by oncological group of Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacy (GEDEFO). Regarding analysis of readability, two “readability indexes" validated for the Spanish language were used.

Fernández-Huerta	206,84 – [(60 x (syllables/words)) + (words/phrases))].
Flesch-Szigriszt	206,835 – [(62,3 x (syllables/words)) + (words/phrases)]

As for the interpretation of the results, values below 60 are considered as unfit for sanitary material in Fernández-Huerta index, while values below 55 are considered in Flesch-Szigriszt index

Results

A total of 11 onco-haematological treatments information sheets were included and compared with 11 sheets of GEDEFO.

	Fernandez-Huerta	Flesch-Szigriszt		Fernandez-Huerta	Flesch-Szigriszt
Pharmacy Service			GEDEFO		
Abiraterona	54,45	49,13	**Capecitbina**	75	70,1
Afatinib	59,5	55,15	**Etoposido**	67,87	62,72
Axitinib	60,32	57,59	**Gefitinib**	68,6	63,5
Bexaroteno	57,19	52	**Imatinib**	67,2	62,13
Crizotinib	60,21	55,04	**Lapatinib**	69,77	64,7
Dabrafenib	54,88	49,49	**Lenalidomida**	72,15	67,16
Enzalutamida	58,54	53,28	**Nilotinib**	74,07	69,17
Ibrutinib	60,58	55,38	**Sorafenib**	73,51	68,56
Pazopanib	61,28	56,13	**Sunitinib**	71,94	66,96
Regorafenib	61,45	56,36	**Temozolamida**	73,61	68,68
Vandetanib	58,08	52,88	**Vinorelbina**	70,9	65,87

55% do not provide adequate information

All provide adequate information

Conclusions

More than a half of the information sheets do not have an adequate readability index. This leads to trigger a process of improvement in the performance of patient information sheets, in order to achieve adequate readability for patient-focused medical supplies.

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