

BACKGROUND

The drug supply shortages are not uncommon and **their frequency and duration are increasing** essentially because of production's issues. The absence of advanced warning from drug manufacturers may **impact the delivery of patient care**.

PURPOSE

The drug supply shortages have several consequences on pharmacy department and by the way on care services. The aim of this analysis is to quantify these disruptions and their impact in our hospital.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The drug supply shortages are regularly followed in pharmacy department using data collection with the following items:

- the drug
- the manufacturer
- the source of disruption's information
- dates of beginning and end
- the substitute therapy

This data collection was **analyzed** between **September 1st, 2013 on August 30th, 2014**.

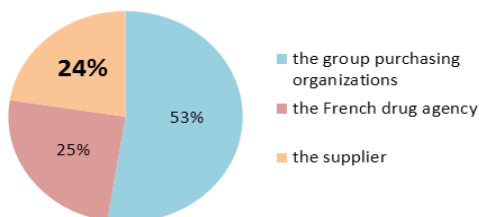
RESULTS

One hundred and seventeen drug shortages were registered:

- 48% of injectable drugs
- 43% of oral drugs
- 9% of external medicines

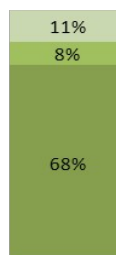
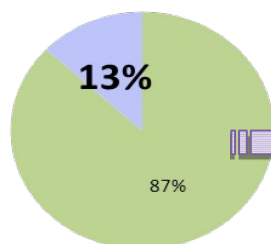
On average, **five drugs per week** (range, 1-13) are in supply shortage, and the drug shortage lasted **65 days** (range, 3-329).

SOURCE OF DISRUPTION'S INFORMATION



ALTERNATIVES

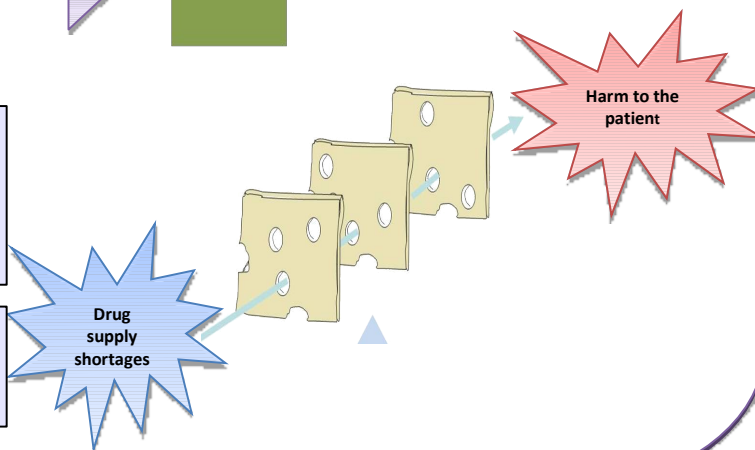
■ Proposed substitute therapies ■ No therapeutic alternative



The main impact of drug shortages on pharmacy services is the amount of time spent by staff **repeatedly** managing this problem:

- choice and creation of substitute therapy
- order processing **purchases for account**
- information to the physicians

In addition, on care services, **changing therapy** or the use of a **less familiar alternative drug therapy** may **raise patient safety issues**.



CONCLUSION

The drug supply shortages have a public-health problem. The suppliers need to be more aware of **anticipating** those issues. It would be interesting to estimate the **economic impact** at the origin of the staff workload.