

DRUGS ADMINISTRATION IN PATIENTS WHO RECEIVE ENTERAL NUTRITION: ANALYSIS OF PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS

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Objectives

The aim of this study is to describe pharmaceutical interventions (PI) performed in patients who receive enteral nutrition (EN) to prevent and solve drug-related problems.

Materials and Methods

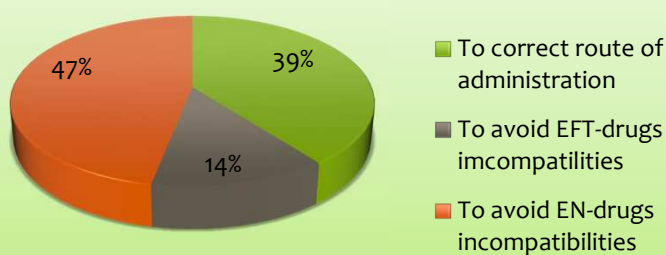
- One month prospective study
- Patients admitted to clinical wards with single-dose distribution system, who started receiving EN.
- We daily reviewed all prescription orders and recorded prescribing service, access device (checked in patient medical record), time of treatment with EN, and prescribed drugs.
- PIs were classified into drug-EN incompatibilities and proper drug administration through enteral feeding tube (EFT). Then were notified in writing to physicians and nursing staff.
- We noted if PIs were accepted by the prescribers.

Results

30 patients were included (13 patients received EN and drugs through EFT)

Average EN treatment length and concomitant medication was 6 days and 10 drugs, respec.

Fig. 1: PIs performed classification



We carried out 81 PIs (fig. 1)

- These PIs involved 80% of patients.
- 61 PIs (75%) were conducted in patients who had an EFT.
- We observed that clinicians accepted 74 PIs (91, 3%).

Conclusions

- Drug-related problems can be identified in a high percentage of patients receiving EN. The development of a pharmaceutical care plan can solve these problems and optimizes quality of patient care.
- Most of PIs were conducted in patients who had an EFT. Drawing up a drug administration guideline and in-depth healthcare team education are needed.
- Real and potential administration errors of medication through EFT can be identified and reduced by means of pharmacist's review of medication charts.