

PRESCRIPTION ERRORS IN ORAL INVESTIGATIONAL PRODUCTS FOR ONCOHAEMATOLOGIC OUTPATIENTS INCLUDED IN A CLINICAL TRIAL

Montero B¹, Cuesta I¹, Pueyo C¹, Navacerrada I¹, Palomar C¹, Molina A¹, Garea J², Bermejo T¹
1 Pharmacy Department Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal
2 Pharmacy Faculty Alcalá de Henares University

BACKGROUND

Prescribing faults and errors in the act of writing can be harmful to patients. There are many studies on errors in manual prescription of chemotherapy or medication for inpatients, but there are not many about investigational products prescription

PURPOSE

To quantify and to analyze errors in oral investigational product (oral IP) prescriptions for oncohaematologic outpatients included in a clinical trial (CT)

MATERIALS AND METHODS



A descriptive and prospective study was conducted from August to September 2015



Inclusion criteria: oral IP prescriptions for outpatients from Oncology and Haematology Departments



Data about investigators and service, CT's code and title and investigational products requested (strength, dosage, quantity, kit number, etc.) are collected in our ORAL IP prescription formulary



We established 4 error categories for each item to complete from prescription formulary: erroneous data, omitted data, incomplete/unreadable data and wrong location data



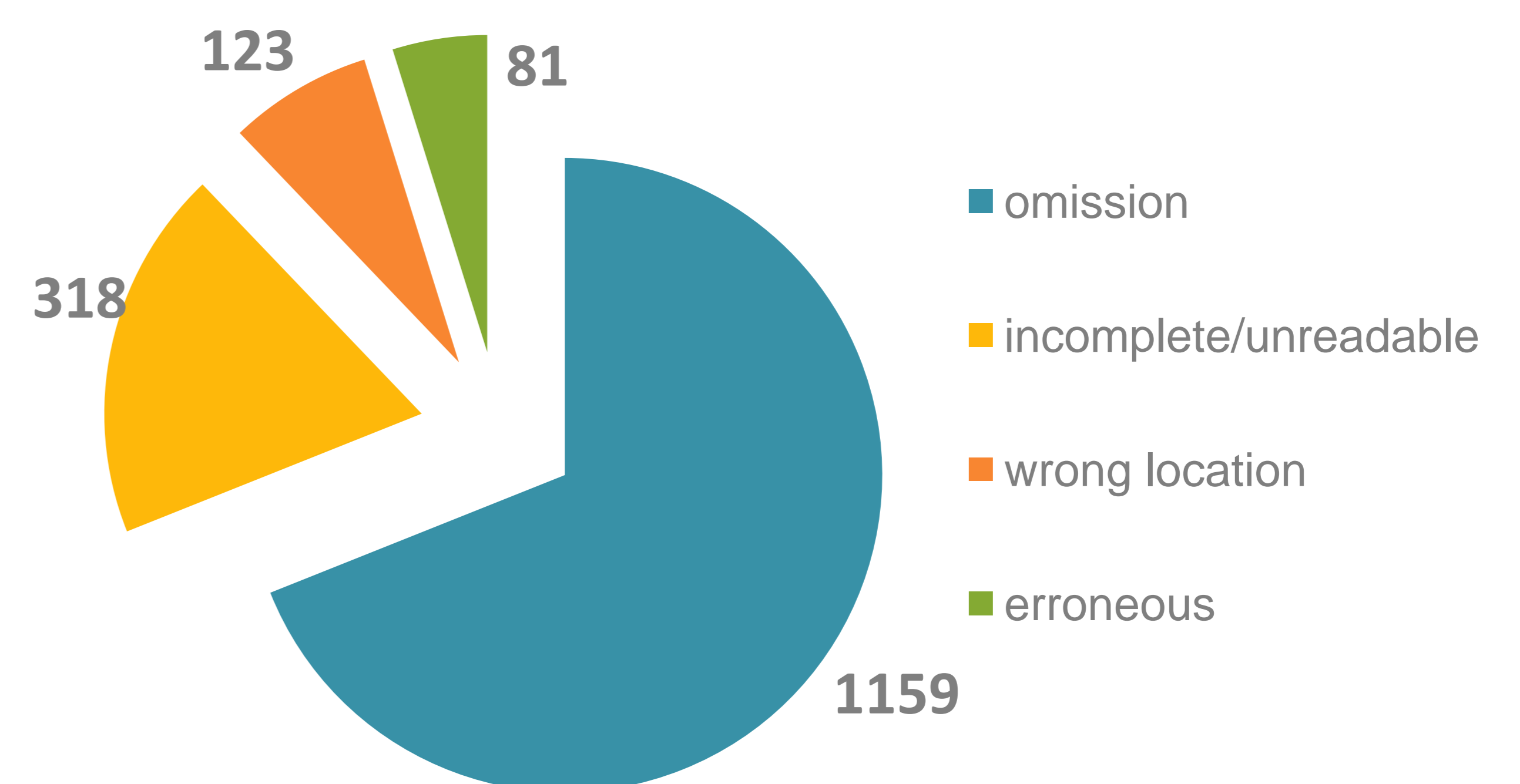
Measured variables were: service, number of oral IP prescribed, number and type of mistakes

RESULTS

A total of **253** prescriptions from **69** different CT were analyzed, **74.5%** belonged to the Oncology Department

A total of **1681** errors (**5.4±1.8** errors/oral IP) were detected. The mean of errors in **ONCOLOGY** prescriptions was **5.3±1.8** errors/oral IP and **5.9±1.8** errors/oral IP in **HEMATOLOGY** prescriptions.

TYPE OF ERROR



ERROR LOCATION

Oral IP prescription formulary

Investigators and service: 19.5% (1.1±1.2 errors/oral IP)

CT's code and title: 25.6% (1.4±0.8 errors/oral IP)

Data about oral IP: 54.8% (3.0±1.2 errors/oral IP)

CONCLUSIONS

- The high prevalence of errors highlights the necessity to take measures in order to reduce errors, such as assisted electronic prescription, what can be particularly benefit to oral IP prescription.
- A large percentage of these errors are preventable and awareness of this issue among health care professionals plays a key role in promoting effective safety practices to reduce their incidence.