



INMUNOGLOBULIN RATIONALISATION PLAN IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL DURING SHORTAGE BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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1. WHAT WAS IT DONE?

A rationalization plan of human IgGs use was implemented in a tertiary hospital through the multidisciplinary groups, in which Pharmacy Department (PD) participated.

2. WHY WAS IT DONE?

The demand and use of immunoglobulins (IgGs) is growing, and there are many difficulties in obtaining supplies. This situation has been worsened during and especially after COVID-19 pandemic. A low number of blood donations and apheresis procedures, caused a shortage of IgGs worldwide. The measures implemented (dose and period optimization) ensured the achievement of an adequate balance between supply and demand, enabling an increase of plasma fractionation industry.

3. HOW WAS IT DONE?



WORKING GROUPS

(paediatrics, haematology, immunology and neurology)

"Criteria for the rational use of human immunoglobulins" published by the Madrid Health Service in 2021

All patients on regular treatment with IgGs were identified and each one was reviewed: indication, dose, regimen and treatment alternatives. Decisions were made regarding: continuation or discontinuation of treatment and dose or regimen adjustments.

4. WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVEVE?

After identifying 184 patients treated with IgGs, a set of pharmaceutical policies has been drawn up in conjunction with stakeholders. A total of 34 patients (%) discontinued IgGs, 24 patients reduced doses and 15 increased time between administrations.

As a result, it has been possible to continue the treatment in those patients for whom its use was a vital urgency during shortage period.

5. WHAT NEXT?

Long-term follow-up is necessary to better analyse the impact of the established measures. Registries play an important role in collection of systematic data to analyse, synthesize, and obtain valuable information for decision support. 5 patients had to restart IgGs treatment and 7 patients had to come back initial regimen. Even so, politic rationalization in especial situations is a key factor of pharmaceutic activity to ensure treatments for patients who need it the most.

