

PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS IN ORAL AND SUBCUTANEOUS MTX PRESCRIBING ERRORS

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Methotrexate (MTX) is a **cytostatic** used as **immunomodulator in non-oncological diseases**, dosed at **7-25 mg/week orally/subcutaneously** in adults. It is catalogued by the ISMP (Institute for Safe Medication Practices) as "**high-risk drugs**", which incorrectly used may cause serious-fatal harm to patients. **Folic acid (FA)** is administered to **prevent MTX toxicity**.

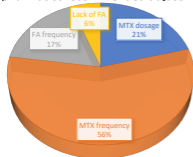
AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To **analyse pharmaceutical interventions (PIs)** on MTX and FA prescriptions and to **assess the acceptance degree** by the physicians.

RESULTS

36 patients with erroneous prescriptions were detected. **67% female**. The **median age was 54 years (18-86)**. The associated pathologies were included in the **rheumatologic** (n=23,63.9%), **dermatologic** (n=8,22.2%), and **internal medicine** (n=5,13.9%) areas: rheumatologic arthritis (n=8,22.2%), juvenile idiopathic arthritis (n=3,8.3%), psoriatic spondyloarthritis (n=4,11.1%), polyarthritis (n=1,2.8%), psoriasis (n=6,16.7%) and others (n=14,38.9%).

Of all the PIs performed (n=53), the pharmacist **recommended adjustment of:**



CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

Most of the PIs were about errors in prescribing the MTX administration **frequency, daily instead of weekly**, implying a high risk of intoxication. **The acceptance degree of the PIs was very high, reinforcing the role of the pharmacist.**

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Prospective observational study.

Oral/subcutaneous MTX prescriptions in **adults** between March-May 2023 of patients in a third level hospital area were obtained. Filters applied to detect errors were: **dosage of one tablet (2.5mg) and administration frequency different from 7 days**. Once patients were identified, MTX and FA prescriptions were reviewed and the responsible physician was contacted. The **acceptance degree of the PIs was measured**.

The variables collected were: **number of patients on whom PIs were performed, sex, age, diagnosis, number and type of PIs identified**.

Acceptance Degree

