

# PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTION IN INTRAVITREAL THERAPY

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## Background and Importance

Intravitreal injection is a minimally invasive technique, not without risks and complications, of proven effectiveness in the treatment of numerous vitreoretinal diseases. Its use, thanks to new medications and indications, has become widespread in recent years. The role of the pharmacist in the review and validation of these treatments helps to improve the quality of care as well as patient safety by preventing potential medication errors.

## Aim and Objectives

To describe the pharmaceutical interventions associated with intravitreal therapy in a secondary level hospital.

## Materials and Methods

Observational retrospective study

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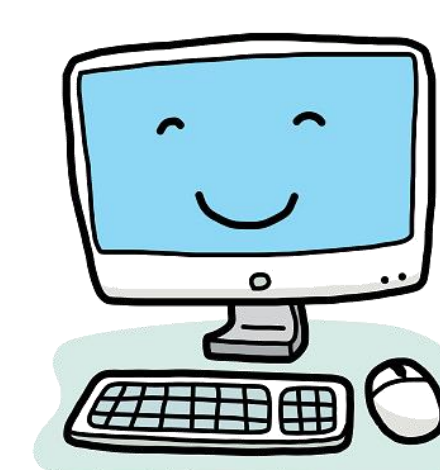
Patients with IVT:

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- Faricimab
- Dexamethasone

electronic prescription program

Variables:

- Number of total patients
- Number of patients with PIs
- Diagnosis
- Number of PIs
- Type of PI



IVT: intravitreal therapy; PIs: pharmaceutical interventions

## Results

1136 patients with IVT

Degree of intervention: 10,4%

### 118 patients with PIs

Diagnosis of patients with PIs	n (%)
Diabetic macular edema	47 (39,8%)
Age-related macular degeneration	38 (32,2%)
Retinal vein occlusion	15 (12,7%)
Non-diabetic macular edema	7 (5,9%)
Neovascular membrane	4 (3,4%)
Diabetic retinopathy	3 (2,5%)
Choroideal neovascularization	2 (1,7%)
Other ophthalmologic pathologies	2 (1,7%)

### 129 PIs before IVT

Causes of PIs	n (%)
Wrong medication	49 (38,0%)
Wrong eye	27 (20,9%)
Lower frequency than scheduled	24 (18,6%)
Dose omission	9 (7,0%)
Change of medication due to not indicated medication	9 (7,0%)
Change of medication due to management reason	3 (2,3%)
Other reasons	8 (6,2%)

100% PIs accepted

## Conclusion and Relevance

This study demonstrates the multiple potential medication errors associated with IVT and provides useful information which supports the importance of the hospital pharmacist's role in improving patient safety and healthcare quality.



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