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Pharmacotherapy assessment of patients in isolation precautions: A new experience at a university hospital

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Introduction: Since the pharmacotherapy assessment is not implemented in clinical practice in most Brazilian hospitals, every specialist that participates in the care process of a patient can include a new drug in the pharmacotherapy, not taking into consideration the potential drug-drug interaction.

Objectives: This study aim to evaluate the pharmacotherapy of patients in isolation precaution focusing on drug-drug interactions, risks of toxicity and clinical outcomes.

Methods: Evaluation of medical prescription of patients in isolation precautions between September 2015 and May 2016 at general adult intensive care unit and specialized wards of a University Hospital. To identify the potential drug-drug interactions it was used the Micromedex® database. Antibiograms of every patient were followed throughout the antimicrobial treatment to evaluate the clinical outcomes.

Results: Prescriptions of 185 patients were analyzed and 100.0% of them were associated with at least one drug-related problem. Data demonstrated a high prevalence of contraindicated and major potential drug-drug interaction among the medical prescriptions evaluated. The most frequent were the interactions involving fluconazole, amiodarone, fentanyl and midazolam.

Conclusion: This study demonstrates a high prevalence of potential drug-drug interaction resulting from the complexity of pharmacotherapy of patients requiring contact precautions. Nevertheless, drug-drug interactions are among the main evitable causes of adverse drug reaction once the medical prescription assessment is a simple way by which pharmacists can early detect the drug interactions to prevent them from occurring. Specially regarding to antimicrobials, a microbiological diagnosis is quite useful in narrowing the regimen and ensure an accurate and satisfactory treatment.

Biography

Patricia Moriel is a Full Professor in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Science at State University of Campinas (UNICAMP), Brazil. She is a Leader of the Clinical Pharmacy Group that is involved in the study of pharmacotherapy, drug adverse events, pharmacovigilance, pharmacokinetic, pharmacogenomics influences in adverse events, especially in cancer. She has authored more than 45 research articles, awards, conferences and the granting of a research projects. She has been the director of several works of Master in Medical and Pharmaceutical Science and Doctoral theses.

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