

PHARMACOVIGILANCE OF PSYCHOACTIVE MEDICATIONS IN A MEXICAN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

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INTRODUCTION

Pharmacovigilance is defined as watchfulness in guarding against danger from drugs or providing for safety of drugs. It can also be a dedicated department whose role is to monitor toxicity and safety of drugs both in the developmental phase and post marketing. A working group on Pharmacovigilance aims to develop workable operating procedures for the publicly funded research community for reporting, monitoring and managing adverse reactions and events that will satisfy the requirements of the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations. It is also envisaged that the group will review and evaluate information from healthcare providers and patients on the adverse effects of medications, biological products, herbalism and traditional medicines.

Therefore, the present study aimed to monitor notifications of suspected adverse reactions (AR) produced by psychoactive medicaments (ARPM) in a Psychiatry Hospital, during a 4-months period.



METHODS

- One hundred twelve hospitalized patients (Hospital Psiquiátrico Villa Ocaranza, Pachuca Hidalgo, Mexico) entered the study.
- Yellow cards for ARPM reporting were distributed to:
 - 5 general practitioners,
 - 8 psychiatrists
 - 10 psychologists
 - 130 nurses, and
 - 4 pharmacy managers.
- Once each notification, the ARPM was analyzed in order to verify the causality

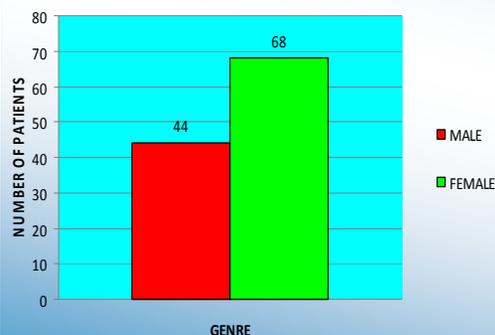


Figure 1. Genre of the 112 patients

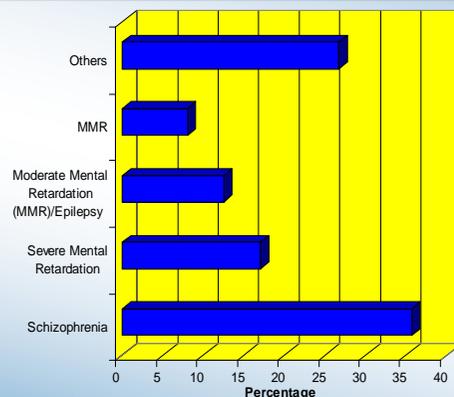


Figure 2. Frequency of the major diagnoses found according to DSM-IV-TR

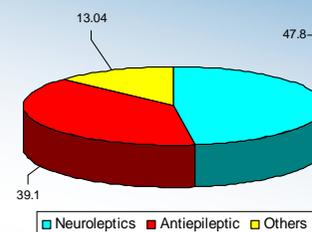


Figure 3. Drugs involved in the ARPM reports



Figure 4. Association between the medication and the AR

RESULTS

- 112 patients completed the study
- The mean \pm SD age of the patients was 46 ± 4.5 years
- During the study were issued 721 recipes of the psychiatric service
- Patients were receiving an average of 5.3 ± 1.1 (range 4 to 8) medications for their psychiatric condition
- Psychiatrists reported only 5 ARPMS in five patients (prevalence: 4.46%)
- The organs and systems affected by the ARs were the central nervous system, skin, endocrinological and gastrointestinal.

CONCLUSIONS

**WE HAD A LOW PREVALENCE OF ARPMS.
IT IS NECESSARY TO ENCOURAGE THE PHYSICIAN IN HOSPITALS TO
PARTICIPATE IN PHARMACOVIGILANCE PROGRAMS.**