



Costs Analysis Through the Centralization of Cytotoxic Drug Preparation in San Roque Hospital, Argentina

María R. BAY, Gladys GONZALEZ, Yanina P. PECOLLO & Andrea V. MASSA

*Pharmacy Department, Interregional Acute Care San Roque Hospital,
M.B. Gonnet, La Plata, Argentina*

SUMMARY. The centralization of cytotoxic drug preparation aims primarily at protecting the handler and preventing the release of aerosols into the external environment through the use of Biological Safety Cabinet and education of personnel involved in handling these drugs. High workloads allow the reuse of remaining fractions of commercial presentations based on the knowledge provided by the pharmacist on drug stability. As a result of this, savings in medication and supplies are achieved. The production of cytotoxic intravenous mixtures in San Roque Hospital was analyzed from April 2010 to March 2011 based on the number and type of drugs prepared. The savings in the Cytotoxic Reconstitution Unit of the San Roque Hospital were estimated as a result of the full centralization of the preparation of cytotoxic intravenous mixtures, amortizing over a short period the investment costs for the construction of the area-, the purchase of a biological safety cabinet, and other requirements necessary for the handling of these drugs. The total annual savings denominated in Argentinian pesos (\$) is \$ 204,350 (US\$ 36505,74). These savings represent 9.64% of the total expenditure on cytotoxic drugs.

KEY WORDS: Centralization, Cytotoxic drugs, Savings.

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. *E-mail:* massaav@yahoo.com.ar