

Drug Utilization Review of Opioid and Non-Opioid Analgesics in Tertiary Care Hospital: Pain Management Study

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SUMMARY. The study was conducted to have an overview of pain management with regard to utilization of opioid and non-opioid analgesic drugs in a tertiary care hospital of Karachi, Pakistan. Medical record file of adult patients was studied to assess the prescribed analgesic drugs for pain management. Effectivity of analgesic drug by using Wong-Baker faces scale was analyzed. Out of 1986 studied patients, 94% patients were prescribed one single analgesic drug. Non-opioid analgesics were prescribed to 74% of patients. 26% patients were prescribed either tramadol and nalbuphine due to unavailability of other opioid analgesics. Parenteral route of administration was recommended to 54% of patients. Oral analgesic drugs were prescribed to 39% of patients. Wong-Baker faces revealed that mild pain and severe pain were reported by 61% and 15% patients respectively. Lack of trained staff and unavailability of opioid analgesics left most of the patients undertreated for pain management.

RESUMEN. El estudio se realizó para tener una visión general de la gestión del dolor con respecto a la utilización de analgésicos opiáceos y no opiáceos en un hospital terciario de Karachi, Pakistán. Se estudiaron las historias clínicas de pacientes adultos para evaluar los fármacos analgésicos prescritos para el tratamiento del dolor. se analizó la efectividad del fármaco analgésico utilizando la escala facial de dolor de Wong-Baker. De 1986 pacientes estudiados, al 94% se les prescribió un solo analgésico. Se prescribieron analgésicos no opiáceos a 74% de los pacientes. Al 26% de los pacientes se les prescribió tramadol y nalbufina debido a la falta de disponibilidad de otros analgésicos opiáceos. La vía parenteral de administración se recomendó al 54% de los pacientes. Se prescribieron analgésicos orales al 39% de los pacientes. La escala facial de Wong-Baker reveló que el 61% y el 15% de los pacientes reportaron dolor leve y dolor severo, respectivamente. La falta de personal capacitado y la falta de disponibilidad de analgésicos opiáceos dejaron a la mayoría de los pacientes con bajo tratamiento para el manejo del dolor.

KEY WORDS: non-opioid analgesics, opioid analgesic, Wong-Baker faces.

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