

Prescribing Antibiotics for Pediatric Outpatients in a Teaching Hospital in Bengbu (China), 2013 to 2014: a Retrospective Study

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SUMMARY. Antibacterial drug abuse is a serious concern in China and is particularly acute in children. The study aimed to understand the antibacterial use in the outpatient department of teaching hospital, to explore the rational use strategies of antibacterial drugs, and to provide reference for the regulation of paediatric antimicrobial drugs. The study was conducted between 2013 and 2014, during which 4320 paediatric outpatients' prescriptions were examined. The study showed that patients aged 2 to 5 years had the highest number of antibiotics prescribed at 40.25% and inappropriate prescriptions were 70.95%, intravenous administration accounted for 62.29%, in paediatric clinics the third-generation cephalosporins were the most used with 46.53% to 47.59% from 2013 to 2014 total 4320 prescriptions. Antibiotic abuse is a significant problem among paediatric outpatients. This is especially the case regarding antibiotic choice, incorrect dosing interval, the inappropriateness of dose, lack of normative prescription writing and lack of effective management measures.

RESUMEN. El abuso de drogas antibacterianas es una preocupación seria en China y es particularmente agudo en los niños. El estudio tuvo como objetivo comprender el uso antibacteriano en el departamento de pacientes ambulatorios del hospital docente, explorar las estrategias de uso racional de los fármacos antibacterianos y proporcionar una referencia para la regulación de los fármacos antimicrobianos pediátricos. El estudio se realizó entre 2013 y 2014, durante el cual se examinaron 4320 recetas pediátricas para pacientes ambulatorios. El estudio mostró que los pacientes de 2 a 5 años tenían el mayor número de antibióticos prescritos en (40.25%) y que las recetas inapropiadas eran 70.95%, la administración intravenosa representaba 62.29%, en las clínicas pediátricas las cefalosporinas de tercera generación eran las más usadas con 46.53% en 47.59% de 2013 a 2014 total de 4320 recetas. El abuso de antibióticos es un problema importante entre los pacientes ambulatorios pediátricos. Este es especialmente el caso con respecto a la elección de antibióticos, el intervalo de dosificación incorrecto, la inadecuación de la dosis, la falta de escritura de prescripción normativa y la falta de medidas de gestión efectivas.

KEY WORDS: antibiotic prescription, children, paediatric outpatients, rational use, retrospective study.

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