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Evaluation of antibiotic use in post-operative care in a tertiary care hospital
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Research Article

Evaluation of antibiotic use in post-operative care in a tertiary care hospital

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Abstract

Introduction: Antibiotics are the drugs which are utilized commonly in surgical patients as around 30% will develop post-operative surgical site infections. Assessing prescription pattern is significant to improve the rational drug use and substantiate utilization of resources. **Objectives:** The present study was an attempt to evaluate patient antibiotic prescribing patterns and related issues in the post-operative care. **Methods:** A prospective indirect interventional study was conducted for about six months among study subjects in post-operative ward in a tertiary care hospital. **Results:** Of the total 110 patients reviewed in the study, majority were found to be female among the age group of 21 - 40 years. A total of 1,107 drug products were prescribed of which antibiotics held 27.37% share. Parenteral route was most commonly employed (52.41%) along with two drug combination of antibiotics (25.74%). Medication prescribed from essential drug list amounts up to 55.1% and 11.56% drugs was prescribed with generic name. Assessing drug therapy related problems, drug-drug interactions were the most common which accounted for 54.71% of the total drug related problems followed by adverse drug reactions 18.86%, unnecessary use of drugs 16.98% and over and underutilization 9.43% were observed. **Conclusion:** The study reveals that considerable deviation was observed with respect to WHO prescribing indicators. Empirical antibiotic therapy and polypharmacy was found to be higher in the study which in turn promotes drug related problems. Active involvement of pharmacists might retard drug related problems and can promote rational drug use.

Key words: Antibiotics, drug related problems, World Health Organisation prescribing indicators

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