Background La Fe Universitario y Politécnico Hospital is a tertiary-care hospital with approximately 1000 beds serving a population of 210,000 people. The pharmacy department owns 4 vertical laminar flow hoods where more than 35,000 chemotherapy treatments, including the filling of 80 elastomeric pumps, are prepared per year.

Purpose To compare both the time spent and the accuracy in the filling of elastomeric pumps (EPs) with fluorouracil by two different methods: DIANA ONCO-PLUS, a semi-automated compounding system (ICU Medical Europe), and the normal manual method used in the hospital’s Chemotherapy Unit (CU). The secondary endpoint was to assess user satisfaction with the two methods.

Materials and Methods For 4 consecutive weeks, EPs were filled by trained nurses two days per week. The first day DIANA ONCO-PLUS was used and the second day the EPs were filled manually. To avoid bias, every week a different nurse filled the EPs using both methods. Filling time was measured by a different nurse using a conventional chronograph and the accuracy was evaluated by weight of EP (before and after filling). Nurses’ satisfaction was assessed by a questionnaire.

Results The filling of sixty-five EPs was evaluated. The filling mean time was 4.25 min with the manual method and 3.84 min with DIANA ONCO-PLUS (p = 0.008). If purge is considered, the mean time was 6.63 min and 5.52 min respectively (p < 0.001). The mean relative error in the filling was 0.735% in manual method and 0.314% in DIANA method (p = 0.006) without any clinical relevance. There was no user-related variability. Nurses were very satisfied using DIANA for filling EP. They considered DIANA more comfortable and safe.

Conclusions DIANA ONCO-PLUS is a more efficient and accurate method to fill EPs than the manual method. The differences found were user-independent.

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No conflict of interest.

TCH-022 INTRADIALYTIC CALCIPHYLAXIS IN RENAL PATIENTS. DEVELOPMENT OF AN INJECTABLE SOLUTION OF 25% SODIUM THIOSULFATE FOR TREATMENT

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Background Calciphylaxis (calcific uremic arteriolopathy) is the ischemic ulceration of the skin caused by the disseminated calcification of the subcutaneous tissue and small arteries as a consequence of hyperparathyroidism in uremic patients.

Purpose To describe the method of preparation and checking of an injectable solution of 25% sodium thiosulfate for the treatment of intradialytic calciphylaxis in renal patients.

Materials and Methods Sodium thiosulfate is an antioxidant, vasodilator and calcium chelator. The preparation process for the solution of 25% sodium thiosulfate is: Ingredients: Sodium thiosulfate pentahydrate: 25 g, water for injection (WFI): qs 100 ml. Preparation: Weigh the amount of sodium thiosulfate in a sterile beaker. Then, working in a horizontal laminar flow hood, boil WFI to eliminate CO₂. Dissolve the thiosulfate in about 80 ml of boiled water. Check that the pH of the solution is between 6 and 9.5, if it is not, adjust with HCl or NaOH. Flush into a 100 ml volumetric flask and make up to volume. Filter with a double 0.22 micron filter. Finally pack with 50 ml syringe into a sterile glass bottle and label.

Results The result is a solution of 100 ml of 25% sodium thiosulfate, transparent, sterile and stable for 30 days in refrigerator. For QC a visual particulate sterility cheque is performed by sowing in aerobic and anaerobic cultures and a bubble point test to verify the integrity of the philtres.

Conclusions Proper preparation and checking of the 25% solution of sodium thiosulfate has guaranteed its parenteral administration is safe. The treatment is effective and well tolerated, helping patients and improving their quality of life.

No conflict of interest.
TCH-020 Improving Efficiency in Elastomeric Pump Filling Using DIANA ONCO PLUS, a Semi-Automated Compounding Device

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