Purpose To analyse the use of antibiotics at the Children’s University Hospital.

Materials and Methods Two point prevalence surveys undertaken on a single day in May and November, 2011. Data collected included demographic details, antibiotic, route and indication. This study included all in-patients, who were present in hospital at 8 am on the days of surveys and to whom a systemic course of antibiotics (ATC J01) were prescribed for treatment. Day-cases were excluded. Microsoft Excel and SPSS 20.0 were used for data analysis.

Results The total number of patients to whom antibacterials was prescribed: 125/418 (30%) in May, and 159/424 (38%) in November. The number of patients to whom antibacterials were prescribed (for treatment): 105 (84%) in May, and 125 (79%) in November. The main age group was 1–5 years: 27 (22%) patients in May, and 38 (24%) and 41 (26%) in November. The top five antibiotics prescribed: 125/418 (30%) in May, and 159/424 (38%) in November.

Conclusions These prevalence studies indicated the main problems in antibiotic prescription and areas of improvement: the high use of third generation cephalosporins and predominant intravenous administration.

No conflict of interest.

B.E.A.M. Summit

BEA-001 BUILDING UP A REGIONAL AND INTERDISCIPLINARY NETWORK FOR BETTER USE OF MEDICINES IN INTENSIVE CARE UNITS

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Background Clinical pharmacy in intensive care units (ICUs) showed beneficial effects on safety and economics. The establishment of a regional network including pharmacists, physicians and nurses of all ICUs seemed useful for the following reasons:

- Issues regarding medicines use in ICU are similar in all hospitals.
- Patients are often transferred from a tertiary care hospital to a secondary one or vice versa.
- Health care givers move from a hospital to another one during their career.

In 2007, an interdisciplinary group, Sipharom, was set up in order to create a network in the French and Italian speaking parts of Switzerland.

Purpose The goals of the project were to exchange data on drug administration in ICUs, share knowledge and skills, and establish standards for the administration of drugs.

Materials and Methods Sipharom now involves 13 hospitals. Each is represented by an ICU physician, an ICU nurse and a pharmacist. The group meets twice a year. Then, each member has to implement the decisions in his/her hospital.

Results Four main areas of action have been developed:

- Harmonisation of the dilution and preparation of intravenous drugs: 52 standard dilutions have been defined. This led to collaborations with manufacturers in order to obtain ready-to-use preparations at the defined dilutions.
- Harmonisation of the labelling of syringes: definition of the minimal list of elements that labels have to include.
- Exchange of critical data
- Drafting of joint guidelines

Conclusions Establishing a network is an effective way of increasing the exchange of expertise. It can lead to the simplification and harmonisation of practises and therefore help reducing risks and medicines errors and limit problems related to the movement of patients and caregivers. Pharmacists have to be the driving force of such interdisciplinary projects focusing on drug use.

No conflict of interest.