Background Tapentadol is a potent analgesic with opioid agonist properties of the μ receptor and additional properties of inhibition of norepinephrine recapture. It is indicated to control chronic intense pain in adults, which can only be treated adequately with an opioid analog.

Purpose To analyze and evaluate the use of tapentadol in a second-level hospital and describe the characteristics of patients who have been treated.

Material and methods Observational, descriptive study. All episodes of treatment with tapentadol in the hospital since 1 January 2017 (date of its introduction in the pharmacotherapeutic guide) until 1 October 2018 were included. Patient variables (sex, age, dose, indication and service in which they were admitted) were retrieved from the electronic medical records (Diraya) and all data related to tapentadol posologies (dosage and frequency) were reviewed through the prescriptions of patients using Silicon, the electronic prescribing system. All data obtained were included in a database designed for this study.

Results During the period of our study 50 patients were treated, 44% males with an average age of 66.9 (44–86) years and 56% females whose average age was 66.7 (29–87) years. The most prescribed dose was 50 mg/12 hours (60%), followed by 100 mg/12 hours (28%), 200 mg/12 hours (6%), 150 mg/12 hours (4%) and finally 25 mg/12 hours (2%).

Regarding the prescription of tapentadol in terms of pathologies, it was emphasized that 52% of patients suffered herniated discs and/or vertebral fractures, 30% chronic pain, generalized polyarthritis and fibromyalgia, 10% cancer pain, 6% chronic tension headaches and/or migraines, while only 2% suffered from advanced Parkinson’s disease.

The medical services that made these prescriptions were: 44% internal medicine, 38% orthopaedic surgery and traumatology, 12% neurology, 4% urology and 2% palliative care.

Conclusion The use of tapentadol is more frequent in females than in males. Respecting ages, they are very similar in both sexes.

The highest doses belong to patients with oncological pain.

The prescription of tapentadol was mainly for non-oncological pain (90%) and, within it, the pathologies mainly treated were spinal injuries (herniated discs and/or vertebral fractures).

Orthopaedic surgery, traumatology and internal medicine were the main prescribers.

REFERENCES AND/OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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4CPS-168 POSTOPERATIVE PAIN MANAGEMENT AND PAIN REFERRED BY ADULT PATIENTS 24 HOURS AFTER SURGERY AND ONE MONTH AFTER DISCHARGE


Background Inappropriate pain management during the surgical process could lead to worse surgery outcomes and quality of life. Hospital pharmacists should develop strategies to improve pain management.

Purpose To describe postoperative pain treatment, the proportion of patients who referred moderate-severe pain 24 hours after surgery and 1 month after discharge, and number of visits to the primary care physician, the emergency room (ER) or re-admissions related to postoperative pain during the first month after surgery.

Material and methods An observational, descriptive, prospective study was conducted from February to September 2018. Inclusion criteria: adult patients admitted to surgery departments 24 hours after surgery. Collected variables: demographic, pharmacotherapeutic and clinical. The intensity of the pain was measured by the numerical verbal scale (NVS). The frequency of patients with moderate-severe pain (NVS >4) was calculated at 24 hours after intervention and 30 days after discharge.

Results

• One-hundred and thirty-three patients (59% males) were recruited (median age 62.7 years, interquartile range 52.0–72.3).

• One-hundred and seventeen patients (88.0%, CI 95%: 82.4% to 93.5%) were prescribed an analgesic around the clock.

• Ninety-eight patients (73.7%, CI 95%: 66.2% to 81.2%) were prescribed acetaminophen, dipyrone or a NSAID around the clock. Thirty-eight of them (38.8%, CI 95%: 29.1% to 48.4%) were prescribed a potent opioid as a rescue, whereas 28 of them (28.6%, CI 95%: 19.6% to 38.6%).