

SARS-CoV-2: an opportunity for hospital pharmacy

Life can take an unexpected turn in a matter of minutes; in the year 2020 we have all been aware of it. Something has happened that, for many of us, was unimaginable. The SARS-CoV-2 virus has strongly impacted our daily lives, putting the whole world on a tightrope.

The virus spreads easily, hospitals are full and health professionals work tirelessly. They are the protagonists in the news of all countries. But there are some specific health professionals who go more unnoticed—hospital pharmacists. They are heroes who often remain in the shadows, in the background. But thanks to the pandemic situation we are experiencing, this is changing little by little.

In hospitals, including pharmacy services, there have been situations of stress and overflow due to the large increase in work associated with COVID-19. This situation has caused the figure of the pharmacist, often unknown, to be more visible in hospitals around the world.

During this time we have been adapting to the needs of the hospital and patients: making an almost daily update of protocols in the management of this new disease, evaluating the evidence published in the therapeutic approach to COVID-19,

managing the medication, preparing a hydroalcoholic solution in moments of shortages, implanting systems of sending the medication to a patient's home, and dealing with the management, storage and dispensing of the new commercialised vaccines.

If we look back, we will realise that it has been very hard work, even exhausting, but it has allowed us to show others what hospital pharmacists are capable of contributing, which is a lot. We have lived—and continue to live—in a situation in which a lot is demanded of us. But we have been able to respond, despite the fact that this work is not always visible. Because we are like that, the health of our patients is what drives us to continue fighting. And in the end, despite being surrounded by so much adversity, we have emerged strengthened as the great team that we are and as health professionals. And we realise again that the pharmacy is essential in a hospital, that we are valuable and we have a lot to contribute.

We will continue to fight to defeat this virus, and we will do so by working as we have done until now, proving our courage. We can be proud to be part of this great group that is the Hospital Pharmacy. Therefore, dear hospital pharmacists: THANK YOU, THANK YOU and a thousand times THANK YOU for your constant work.

Raquel Claramunt García ¹,
Carmen Lucía Muñoz-Cid,¹ Andrés Sánchez Ruiz²

¹Pharmacy Department, Hospital Universitario de Jaén, Jaén, Spain

²Pharmacy Department, Hospital Alto Guadalquivir, Andújar, Spain

Correspondence to Dr Raquel Claramunt García, Hospital Universitario de Jaén, 23007 Jaen, Spain; raquel_kudt93@hotmail.com

Funding The authors have not declared a specific grant for this research from any funding agency in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors.

Competing interests None declared.

Patient consent for publication Not required.

Provenance and peer review Not commissioned; internally peer reviewed.

This article is made freely available for personal use in accordance with BMJ's website terms and conditions for the duration of the covid-19 pandemic or until otherwise determined by BMJ. You may download and print the article for any lawful, non-commercial purpose (including text and data mining) provided that all copyright notices and trade marks are retained.

© European Association of Hospital Pharmacists 2022. No commercial re-use. See rights and permissions. Published by BMJ.



To cite Claramunt García R, Muñoz-Cid CL, Sánchez Ruiz A. *Eur J Hosp Pharm* 2022;**29**:e5.

Published Online First 14 May 2021

Eur J Hosp Pharm 2022;**29**:e5.

doi:10.1136/ejhpharm-2021-002859

ORCID iD

Raquel Claramunt García <http://orcid.org/0000-0001-9127-4071>