

A Pharmacists Day in Oncology Pharmacy

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Introduction

For more than 25 years Oncology Pharmacy represents a solid component in the treatment of cancer patients. Its fields of activity had to be redefined and processes redesigned and tested for feasibility. The contribution of Oncology Pharmacy is used daily by members of the healthcare team. The action of a pharmacist is not sufficiently documented; therefore we want to bring some light into the darkness.

Materials and methods

To find out how pharmacists make practical contribution throughout the day, we invited members of the DGOP to document their activities for one week. In the end we asked them to give us the summary of their daily routine in Oncology Pharmacy field. All activities that are not related to oncology should be disregarded

We asked about the following:

- The manner in which the request has been processed: online, fax, mail or phone.
- The number of preparations per day, classified by: cytostatic drugs and antibodies, parenteral nutrition, analgesic formulations and antibiotic solutions.
- The number of dispensed oral anticancer drugs per day.
- The time required for the manufacture, treatment management of i.v. as well as oral medication, billing, and internal QMS.
- The amount of daily contacts with physicians, patients, their families and payers, as well as the kind of contact: personally, by mail or by phone.

Results and discussion

It regards both, hospital and community pharmacies. Around 600 pharmacists were contacted. At the time of preparation of this abstract, 40 responses had been received. More answers are about to be collected and evaluated in the following weeks. For ECOP representative results will be presented.

Conclusion

25 years after implementing pharmacist in the treatment process, a considerable demand for process improvement is needed. Consulting activities of the pharmacist must assume an even greater extent, in order to provide all the necessary support to the patient.

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