DRUG PRESCRIBING PATTERN WITH COST ANALYSIS AND MONITORING OF ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS IN DEPARTMENT OF DERMATOLOGY: A PROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

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Background:

Dermatological conditions account for up to 2\% of consultations in general practice worldwide. Skin disease in developing countries have a serious impact on the quality of life. The pattern of drug use in a hospital setting need to be monitored to offer feedback to prescribers.

Aims and objectives:

To assess the prescribing pattern of drugs, their cost and adverse reactions in the outpatient department of dermatology of a tertiary care hospital.

Materials and Methods:

A cross-sectional study was done for a period of one year (between February 2016 to January 2017) at outpatient department of
Abstract

Medicine, Sree Mookambika Institute of Medical Sciences, Kulasekharam, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu. Data was collected by reviewing the OPD cards and prescription data. Average cost per prescription was calculated.

Results:

171 prescriptions were evaluated during the study period. Female preponderance was higher in all age groups. The mean age group of study population using dermatological drugs was 38.67 years. Eczema was the commonest dermatological condition. Antifungals were the most commonly prescribed class of drugs. Average number of drug per prescription was 2.78 and only 40.67% of drugs were prescribed by generic name. The percentage of antibiotics prescribed was 14.61%. The total average cost per encounter per day was calculated to be Rs. 280.01/- . Based on WHO causality assessment scale, 50% of ADRs were possible.

Conclusion:

This drug utilization study gives an perception to the prescriber regarding various issues related to prescribing pattern, cost analysis, prevalent disease pattern in the region and adverse reaction profile of drugs prescribed in dermatology department. A great majority of the drugs were prescribed in brand names. Drugs should be prescribed in their generic name to avoid confusion and to minimize the costs.
Keywords : Prescribing pattern ,Cost analysis, Dermatology