

Quality of prescriptions: epidemiological cross sectional study

Raineri F, Arnould P, Martinez L, Duhot D, Hebbrecht G, Maniette A-P, Lanque P

SFMG – French Society of General Medicine – France

Aim

To address quality of prescriptions by general practitioners (GP) belonging to SFMG Peer Groups (PGR).

Method

Prospective study comparing average quality-scores of drug prescription between two groups.

GPs using computer prescription

- 11 diagnoses: HBP, Angina, Thrombophlebitis, Rhythmical disorders, Cardiac insufficiency, Diabetes, Dyslipidemia, Anxiety, Depression, Insomnia, URI,

- 6 days between April and May 2006,

- 10 items were retained:

- 3 linked to the quality prescription: mention of age, weight and gender,

- 7 linked to the prescription lines related to the studied diseases: mention and conformity of drug galenic, dosage and frequency of intake; and mention of duration of treatment.

The average quality-scores of each group was established from the average quality-score of each drug prescription weighted by the number of lines of prescription, and then from the average quality-score of each GP, weighted by his number of prescriptions.

A cluster statistical analysis was performed.

PGR 79 GPs - 3,723 prescriptions 9,258 lines of drug prescription	Control Group 96 GPs - 4,660 prescriptions 11,975 lines of drug prescription
--	---

Main analysis

To compare the score of statutory prescribing quality between GPs belonging to SFMG PGR or not, using a 10 items index.

Mention of	Mention on the prescription N (%)	
	SFMG PGR	Control
Gender	3,095 93,9 %	4,042 93,2 %
Age	1,616 43,4 %	2,053 44,1 %
Weight p = 0,02	626 16,8%	698 15,0 %
Lines items		

Mention of	Mention on the prescription N (%)	
	PGR	Control
Galenic form p=0,001	3,630 97,5%	4,490 96,4%
Doses p=0,001	3,659 98,3%	4,530 97,2 %
Frequency	3,555 95,5 %	4,436 95,2%
Length of treatment	3 357 90,2 %	4 238 90,9 %
Conformity N (%)		
Galenic form p=0,003	3,630 97,5 %	4,485 96,2%
Doses	3,308 88,9%	4,089 87,7%
Frequency	2,682 72,0%	3,263 70,0%
Lines items		

Clusters analysis results (average conformity score)			
Average conformity score	SFMG PGR Mean (SD)	Control Mean (SD)	P
Prescription 0,780	0.780 (0.13)	0.780 (0.13)	0.20
P/ Doctor 0.780	0.782 (0,09)	0.776 (0.08)	0.67
P/ D/ weighted 0.781	0.783 (0,085)	0.779 (0.0799)	0.39

Discussion

Using computerized prescriptions, statutory prescribing quality is high (0.781) among GPs, with no significant difference between the two groups.

Still progress could be easily achieved by increasing the systematic mention of age (44%), weight (16%) and frequency of intakes notified by a time interval.

Conclusion

Statutory prescribing quality was high (0.781) in both groups.

There is no statistical difference between both groups.

