



THE USE OF COMPUTERISED TREATMENT PLANS FOR THE PRESCRIPTION OF ORAL NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS

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Background and aims

In order to standardize the prescription modalities of oral nutritional supplements (ONS) and thickeners and ensure the traceability of their prescription, in August 2018 we launched a company computerization project of the ONS prescription. The aims of this study was to verify the progress of the computerised prescription in its first year of application.

Methods

From the management software of the Computerized Therapeutic Plans (CTPs) supplied to the Nutritional Teams of AUSL-IRCCS of Reggio Emilia have been extracted data concerning the computerized ONS and thickeners prescription from January to December 2020.

Results

The analysis of the data showed that from January to December 2020 we treated with ONS/thickeners 1,331 patients (Male: 574 [43.13%]; mean age: 71.92 years [range: 0.54-107.88 years]; Female: 757 [56.87%]; mean age: 67.08 years [range: 0.35-104.96 years]). 2.959 CTPs were issued: 37 [1.25%] CTPs weren't considered valid (they didn't contain the dosage). During 2020, 486 patients received one CTP, 329 patients received two CTPs, 291 patients received three CTPs, 149 patients received four CTPs, 38 patients received five CTPs, 18 patients six CTPs, 11 patients received seven CTPs, five patients received eight CTPs, two patients received nine CTPs, one patient received eleven CTPs and another one twelve CTPs. In 2.744 CTPs was prescribed one product, in 706 CTPs were prescribed two products and in 79 CTPs were prescribed three products. Thickeners were prescribed in 654 CTPs.

Conclusions

The computerized prescription of the ONS allows us to ensure accurate, safe, traceable delivery to the patient; finally it allows to verify if the patient withdraw the ONS for its intake.

