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Antibiotic use pattern in Al-Salam teaching hospital

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Background: the aims of this project were to study the use of antibiotics in Al-salam teaching hospital which is a tertiary teaching hospital in Mosul, Iraq. The primary aim was to assess the prevalence of antibiotics used, quantify the antibiotic consumption and identify the main indications of use.

Method: All the medical charts retrieved by training clinical pharmacists from 1st to 20th of January 2019 from three clinical wards (internal medicine, gynaecology/obstetrics and surgery) in Al-salam teaching hospital in Mosul.

Results: 546 file were reviewed, each medical chart represented one patient. Patients admission were 127, 184, 235 (23%, 34%, 43%) to internal medicine, gynaecology/obstetrics and surgery, respectively. The highest average duration of bed day was (3.1 ± 3.21) in internal medicine followed by surgical (2.14 ± 2.35) and gynaecological (1.17 ± 0.66). Antibiotics for systemic use were prescribed for the majority of the patients (88%). However, approximately all of the antibiotics prescribed were parenteral (99%). Third generation cephalosporin were the most significantly used antibiotics alone and in combination with other antibiotics.

Conclusions: In the present study from three wards in the tertiary teaching hospital in Mosul, Iraq, the majority of patients were prescribed antibiotics. Mostly broad spectrum antibiotics were prescribed and primarily used empirically. These findings demonstrate the requirement to implement antibiotic stewardship programs to promote the appropriate use of antimicrobials by selecting the appropriate dose, duration and route of administration. Thereby, shifting the antibiotics use to the narrow spectrum antibiotics, de-escalation of empirical therapy, intravenous-to-oral switch therapy, and dose optimization.

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