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## [A strategy to reduce medication prescription error in hospitalized patients]

[Article in Spanish]

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## **Abstract** in English, Spanish

Prescription errors represent a relevant health problem. This work aims to analyze the medication prescription error in hospitalized patients before and after a multiple intervention. This is a quasi-experimental study of the uncontrolled before-after type. The intervention consisted of the standardization of the prescription process and the training of the prescribing staff. The percentage of prescription error before the intervention was 28.8% (n = 182), that is, 28.8 incorrect prescriptions per 100 medical prescriptions. The most frequent domain of error was: inappropriate dose 52.2% (n = 95), followed by incorrect medication 33% (n = 60), by days of inappropriate treatment 4.4% (n = 8) and

others 10.4% (n = 19). After the intervention, the error decreased to 4.3% (n = 26), that is, 4.3 prescriptions with error every 100 prescriptions, the most frequent error being the incorrect dose: 76.9% (n = 20), another 23.1% (n = 6). The harm associated with inadequately prescribed medication before and after was 0.95 (n = 6) events and 0.33 (n = 2) events per 100 admissions respectively. The improvement intervention was useful for reducing the prescription error in this institution and patient sample.

**Keywords:** drug prescription error; electronic prescription; quality improvement.

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