Abstract

Introduction: Medication errors are defined as failures during the treatment process that either cause harm to patients or have the ability to harm patients. Medication errors are problems that occur in hospitalized patients or patients who have concomitant underlying illness or who take multiple medications.

Method: This prospective study was performed during 6 months study at Tabriz Alzahra Obstetrics and Gynecology Training Center (under the supervision of Ardabil University of Medical Sciences). During the study period, patients' records, laboratory data, and physician instructions were reviewed by the clinical pharmacist in the morning and all errors identified were documented.

Results: uring the study period, 573 medication errors were observed in 200 patients. At least one case of medication error was observed in 82.5% of patients. The prevalence of medication error per patient was 2.86. Of the 200 patients studied, 35 were not found to be errors, and at least 165 were found in 165 patients. Most of the errors were of the "forget dose" type in the prescription phase (167 cases, 28.27%). Frequency of two other errors was "forgotten frequency" in the prescription phase and "adverse drug management" in the monitoring and control phase, respectively (70 cases, 12.21%) and (55 cases, 9.59%), respectively. The major drug error rate was related to antibiotics (19.72%). According to the US Guideline, 43.64% of the medication errors were clinically significant. According to the European Guideline, the highest drug error rate is due to a false dose of 36.63%.

Keywords: Medication errors, Clinical pharmacists, Drug problems.