

ABSTRACT

Newborns and premature babies are a separate group of patients due to their characteristics. The immaturity characteristic of them significantly limits the therapeutic possibilities with the use of drugs used in adults.

The subject of the presented research was to analyze the specificity of pharmacotherapy conducted in 2017 in the Clinical Department of Newborns, Premature Infants with Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

The scale of the use of drugs outside of the registration indications for this age group was assessed.

It was noted that one third of the medicinal products used did not have information about the use of neonatal and preterm infants in the SPC. The administration of these drugs concerned 290 out of 2,383 people, it means more than 12% of hospitalized patients. The frequency of their use correlated with low birth weight and early gestational age of patients.

The analysis of applied pharmacotherapy was carried out. The selected drugs belonged mainly to the groups of drugs used in infections, diseases of the cardiovascular system and the central nervous system. All of the 31 medicinal substances or their combinations within one medicinal product were administered in accordance with the principles of evidence-based medicine. 29 of them were used in accordance with the guidelines for adults. 2 preparations were used in the new unregistered indication. This application concerned 3 patients. No adverse drug reaction were reported after any administration in the analyzed period.

The omission of a group of neonatal patients as a target group in the Summaries of Product Characteristics dramatically limits the therapeutic possibilities in neonatology. In the absence of an alternative treatment, use of drugs outside of the registration indications in the group of newborns and premature babies, but according to current medical knowledge is often the only possible pharmacotherapy, saving the health and life of small patients.

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