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DRUG-DRUG INTERACTIONS AND RISK FACTORS OF INTERACTIONS IN ONCOLOGY

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Introduction: Drug-Drug interactions (DDI's) are a frequent occurrence in clinical practice and in particular in oncology. Cancer patients are assumed as a risk group, mainly due to the high number of drugs related, as well as the changes inherent in the cancer context. In the context of cancer, the studies on DDI's in oncology are reduced in number, presenting incidences ranging from 12% to 63%, depending on the type of population study. Following the high morbidity and mortality that can be associated with DDI's, there is a need to conduct further study on this topic, in order to minimize the occurrence of dangerous DDI's and ensure the prescription and administration of effective and secure therapeutics.

Aim: Identify and characterize the most commons DDI's and identify possible risk factors involved in the occurrence of DDI's, in oncology.

Methods: It was performed a literature review of articles published in several electronic databases (*Pubmed, Ebsco and B-on*), about DDI's in the context of cancer patients, from the year 2005.

Results: After analysis of the articles obtained were considered seven articles, six articles on the occurrence of potential DDI's and one study on the occurrence of real DDI's, in oncology. It should be noted the reduced percentage of studies on real DDI's, where was verified that about 2% of the patients studied were exposed to DDI's. As regards to the potential DDI's, it is noteworthy the high number of DDI's detected and the high percentage of cancer patients exposed, both ambulatory context as in internment (about one-third of subjects in study). Regardless of the type of cancer patient studied, the drugs most referenced are anticonvulsant, antihypertensive and warfarin. The interactions detected were mainly pharmacokinetics and of moderate severity. As regards to risk factors were identified the age, the presence of comorbidities and the polypharmacy, the latter being described as the main factor for the occurrence of DDI's.

Discussion/Conclusion: In short, it was verified that DDI's in oncology require special attention, so the implementation of strategies allowing precocious detection are essential or even avoiding

its occurrence. Besides clinical issues involved, DDI's are associated to a major economic impact, so their complication becomes a higher cost to this patient's treatment. The health professional is an essential agent preventing DDI's, to ensure the effectiveness of therapy and quality of life of patients.