



@paulaotero

Development and Usage Patterns of a Home-grown Drug Information Tool

Paula Otero, MD, MsC

Health Informatics Department

Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires.





Introduction

- *Medication errors are the leading cause of injury and avoidable harm in health care systems worldwide.*
- *The majority occurring at the drug prescription stage. These errors are largely due to lack of knowledge about drugs.*
- *Prescription quality increases when physicians have access to independent sources of information. Access to drug information can enhance prescription quality, reduce length of hospital stay and lower risk-adjusted mortality rates*



Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires (HIBA)

- **HIMSS Level 7+ and JCI accredited organization** with an in-house developed health information system.





Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires (HIBA)

- *Network of two non-profit academic hospitals and 25 outpatient clinics in the Buenos Aires metropolitan area,*
- *7400 healthcare professionals.*
- *In-house-developed health information system*
 - *web-based, problem-oriented EHRs;*
 - *a terminology server referenced to SNOMED CT;*
 - *and a PKB.*



eDrugs

- *Is an interactive drug information tool*
- *Offers information on drugs, and a drug interactions checker (prescription simulator).*
- *It retrieves information from a homegrown Pharmacologic Knowledge Base (PKB)*

MEDINFO 23

8 - 12 JULY 2023 | SYDNEY,
AUSTRALIA



eDrugs

AR - Español - Ayuda

Ingresar principio activo, producto comercial o acción terapéutica

Buscar

Fármaco

MetoTREXATO

Druga de Alto Riesgo

Familia
Antimetabolitos

Códigos

Acción terapéutica
Antineoplásico
Antirreumático
Inmunosupresor

Riesgo teratogénico
Tipo X

Efecto teratogénico: La droga está contraindicada en embarazadas o con sospecha de embarazo
Ver referencias

Riesgo Lactancia
Tipo 3

Contraindicado
Ver referencias

General
Information Sheet

Prospecto | Productos comerciales y posología frecuentes

Información general

Resumen de la Droga

Mecanismo de Acción

Farmacocinética

Farmacoterapéutica

Indicaciones y Posología

Preparación y Administración

Interacciones

Droga - Droga

Droga - Alimento

Droga - Patología

Precauciones

Calcemia

Kalemia

MetoTREXATO

Familia
Antimetabolitos

Acción terapéutica
Antineoplásico, antirreumático, inmunosupresor

LASA
METRONidazol

Vías de Administración



Intra arterial



Intramuscular



Intra-tecal



3 más

Metabolismo



Hepático



Otros



Insuficiencia Renal

Requiere Ajuste

VER DETALLE

Efectos Adversos



DIGESTIVO

Muy frecuentes
Diarrea
Frecuentes
Estomatitis
Náuseas y vómitos
Desconocido
Aumento serico de transaminasas
6 más



HEMATOLÓGICO INMUNOLÓGICO Y LINFÁTICO

Frecuentes
Trombocitosis
Desconocido
Hemorragia
Hipogammaglobulinemia
Pancitopenia
Sepsis
Shock anafiláctico

VER DETALLE

Ingresar principio activo, producto comercial o acción terapéutica

Buscar

Fármaco
MetoTREXATO
Droga de Alto Riesgo

Riesgo Teratogénico
Tipo X

Riesgo Lactancia
Tipo 3

Indicaciones

Dosis Máxima

Insuficiencia Renal

Contraindicaciones

Efectos Adversos

Sobredosis

Bibliografía

Referencias

Interacciones

Droga - Droga
VER DETALLE

X 2

Evitar uso conjunto

D 13

Considerar cambio de esquema

C 148

Monitorear

B 1

No realizar acciones

A 0

No se conoce interacción

Droga - Alimento
VER DETALLE



Esta droga contiene
1 interacción

Droga - Patología
VER DETALLE

D 1

Derrame pleural

Hepatotoxicidad

Neurotoxicidad

D 2

Desequilibrio electrolítico

D 3

Insuficiencia renal

3 más

General Information Sheet

Dosis Máxima



Niños



Adultos



Adolescentes



Ancianos

VER DETALLE

Contraindicaciones

D 2

Digestivo

D 5

Hematológico inmunológico y linfático

D 3

Otros sistemas

VER DETALLE

Calcemia

Ca²⁺

Hipocalcemia

< 8.5 miligramo/decilitro

Evitar su uso

VER DETALLE

Kalemia

K⁺

Hiperpotasemia

> 5 milimol/litro

Evitar su uso

VER DETALLE



Peligrosidad

Alto Riesgo



Riesgo Teratogénico

Tipo X

Contraindicado



Riesgo Lactancia

Tipo 3

Contraindicado



Antídoto

Leucovorina

VER DETALLE

Farmacoterapéutica

Indicaciones y Posología

Preparación y Administración

Interacciones

Droga - Droga

Droga - Alimento

Droga - Patología

Precauciones

Calcemia

Kalemia

Dosis Máxima

Insuficiencia Renal

Contraindicaciones

Efectos Adversos

METOTREXATO 1000 MG LIOFILIZADO EN VIAL

Vía de administración:
Intravenosa

Tipo de infusión:
Intermitente

Tiempo de infusión:
15 a 360 minutos

Reconstitución

Agua destilada solución

Volumen **20 mililitros**
Estabilidad **24 horas** a temperatura ambiente
No es necesario proteger de la luz.

Drug preparation
and administration

Dilución

Cloruro de sodio 0.9%

Concentración **1000 miligramo/ 1000 mililitros**
Estabilidad **24 horas** a temperatura ambiente
No es necesario proteger de la luz.

Dextrosa al 5%

Concentración **1000 miligramo/ 1000 mililitros**



- Preparación y Administración
- Interacciones
 - Droga - Droga
 - Droga - Alimento
 - Droga - Patología
- Precauciones
 - Calcemia
 - Kalemia
 - Dosis Máxima
 - Insuficiencia Renal
 - Contraindicaciones
 - Efectos Adversos
 - Sobredosis
- Bibliografía

Principios activos	Severidad	Recomendaciones
acitretina	X	Riesgo Hepatotoxicidad Recomendación Evitar uso conjunto con metotrexato
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> En caso de indicar Acitretina - Controlar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Alteraciones del hepatograma </div> <p style="margin-top: 5px;">+ más info sobre la interacción</p>		
etretinato	X	Riesgo Hepatotoxicidad Recomendación Evitar uso conjunto con metotrexato
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> En caso de indicar Etretinato - Controlar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Alteraciones del hepatograma </div> <p style="margin-top: 5px;">+ más info sobre la interacción</p>		
bcg intravesical	D	Riesgo Disminucion del efecto terapeutico Recomendación Evitar uso conjunto con metotrexato
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> En caso de indicar BCG intravesical - Controlar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Alteraciones del hepatograma </div> <p style="margin-top: 5px;">+ más info sobre la interacción</p>		

Drug - drug interactions

Ver todos los riesgos (8)

Severo (6)

Moderado (2)

Drug - pathology interaction

Patología

Recomendaciones

derrame pleural

Riesgo

Severo

Descripción

La eliminación del metotrexato se reduce en pacientes con derrames en el tercer espacio (p. Ej., Ascitis o derrame pleural) y los niveles de metotrexato pueden elevarse durante un período prolongado, lo que aumenta la toxicidad.

Recomendaciones

- **Monitoreo Clínico**

Retire el líquido del tercer espacio antes del tratamiento y controle los niveles séricos de metotrexato y los signos y síntomas de toxicidad por metotrexato.

- **Ajuste de dosis**

Puede ser necesario reducir o suspender la dosis.

desequilibrio electrolítico

Riesgo

Moderado

Descripción

La hipercalcemia, la hiperfosfatemia, la hiperuricemia, la hipocalcemia y la disminución de la diuresis pueden ser indicativas del síndrome de lisis tumoral inducido por metotrexato. Deben tomarse las medidas apropiadas (p. Ej., Hidratación agresiva y alopurinol) para prevenir o aliviar los desequilibrios electrolíticos graves y la toxicidad renal durante y después de la administración de quimioterapia en pacientes con tumores quimiosensibles grandes.





Dosis Máxima

Grupos etarios

Todos los grupos etarios

Niño

Adolescente

Adulto

Anciano

Adulto

Maximum dose information

Vía
Oral

Problema
enfermedad neoplasica

Dosis Máxima

En el tratamiento de la enfermedad neoplásica, la dosis máxima tolerada de metotrexato varía significativamente de 80 a 900 mg/m² IV sin terapia de rescate con leucovorina y de 900 a 30,000 mg/m² IV con rescate de leucovorina. La dosis intratecal máxima de metotrexato es de 15 mg.

Problema
artritis reumatoidea

Dosis Máxima

20 miligramo por semana

43

Grupos etarios

Todos los grupos etarios

Lactantes De 1 A 12 Meses

Niño

Adolescente

Adulto

Anciano

Adulto

[Kidney adjustment information](#)

Por resultado

Clearance de Creatinina
< 10 ml/min

Recomendación
Evitar su uso

Clearance de Creatinina
10 - 50 ml/min

Dosis
dosis (% de reducción): **50**

Recomendación
Usar con precaucion

Clearance de Creatinina
> 50 ml/min

Recomendación
No requiere ajuste



Objective

To describe the **design, development** and **architecture** of an **electronic drug information tool** integrated into the health information systems, in a tertiary level academic hospital.



Methods

- **Cross-sectional study of eDrugs usage** recording user characteristics, access to specific sections, and most frequently consulted drug categories during its implementation.
- **Inclusion Criteria:** all users accessing eDrugs between September 3rd and November 4th 2019.
- **Pharmacologic knowledge base:** drug information is entirely retrieved from the hospital's homegrown PKB, containing structured information on more than 1200 drugs, including family, therapeutic action(s), and general information



Methods

- **eDrugs design:** *developed using Nielsen's heuristics, general principles for interaction design. The layout consists of a series of cards, which allows its adaptation to multiple screens. The design of these cards aimed at displaying drug information in an agile and action-oriented way.*



Methods

Architecture

- 3 layers:
 - 1) the view built on Bootstrap.
 - 2) contains the application business logic grouped in two main components:
 - (A) the Drug summary sheet and (B) the Prescription Simulator.
 - 1) services (A) Information retrieval service enables searching drugs by name, therapeutic actions, and generic or brand names; (B) RESTful resources that represent Drugs information content; (C) FHIR service that creates a collection of resources (Bundle) and sends it to the CDS Service; (D) CDS Services with pharmacological alerts and recommendations for the CDS Client (eDrugs).



Results

- **eDrugs was integrated into our EHR through an icon on the EHR's heading.**
- **Drug summary sheet:** includes a search field that allows searches by drug, brand names, and/or therapeutic action. Comprises a Header, a Clinical Information Tab, and a Brand Names Tab (Argentina, Chile, or Uruguay).
 - *The Header* features key information on drug name, class, classification system (ATC and SNOMED), therapeutic actions, teratogenic and breastfeeding risk. Specific iconography and a chromatic scale were used to indicate risk severity. The header can contract to remain visible.
 - *The Clinical Information tab* contains information about mechanism of action, spectrum and resistance, pharmacokinetics, medical use and dosage, and interactions, among others.
 - *The Brand Names Tab* includes information about generic drugs, brand names, and **different dosage of each generic drug.**



Results

- **Prescription simulator:** provides clinical information about potential pharmacological alerts in simulated prescription scenarios. Inputs include: *drug prescriptions; patient characteristics; patient laboratory results; pathologies and allergies*. With this information, the tool shows *interaction alerts* such as
 - *drug-drug (DDI),*
 - *drug-allergy,*
 - *drug-food,*
 - *drug-pathology,*
 - *drug-potassium / calcium blood level,*
 - *drug-creatinine clearance,*
 - *and maximum daily dose.*



Results

- A total of 1,435 identifiable users who accessed eDrugs between September 3rd and November 4th 2019 were included in the study (physicians, n=728, 51%; nurses, n=341, 29%). During the study period, a median of 81 daily users accessed eDrugs (range: 15 - 106). Most users accessed eDrugs to use the Drug summary sheet (97.0%). Accesses to the Prescription simulator represented 2.9% of all.



Results

Drug searches by identifiable users (n = 5692)			
Accessed sections	Clinical information tab only	Brand name tab only	Both
n (%)	4870 (85.56 %)	488 (8.57 %)	334 (5.87 %)
Total modules accessed - n	10858	789	1623
Distinct modules accessed per drug search (mean)	2.05	2.05	4.3
Most accessed modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mechanism of action and Header (48.3 %) ▶ Medical use / dosage (17.9 %) ▶ Adverse reactions (6.3 %) ▶ DDI (5.3 %) ▶ Pharmacokinetics (4.6 %) ▶ Other (17.5 %) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Brand names (97.0 %) ▶ Frequent dosage (2.0 %) ▶ Generic drugs (1.0 %) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Brand names (34.4 %) ▶ Mechanism of action and Header (20.6 %) ▶ Medical use / dosage (16.8 %) ▶ DDI (4.7 %) ▶ Pharmacokinetics (4.6 %) ▶ Other (19.0 %)

use of the main functionality of drugs.



Discussion

- Previous studies have reported that health professionals seek information about drug interactions, dosage and adverse reactions. **Professionals in our institution prioritize these topics as well.** The most searched-for drug groups were antimicrobials and drugs acting on the nervous system.
- **We found a relatively low use of the prescription simulator.** In our institution, DDI alerts operate as components of the EHR, without the need to use a stand-alone CDSS like eDrugs. Similarly, our hospital's EHR already displays brand names as the CPOE form is completed, which might partially explain these results.
- A potential **limitation** of this study is that the design process did not include all UXD steps. However, Nielsen's heuristics were taken into account.
- Furthermore, this study did not include an assessment of user satisfaction.



Conclusion

The **design** and **development** of **electronic drug information tools** poses various challenges on health informatics teams.

Future research should include assessments of **user satisfaction** and links between drug information tools and prescription errors.

Log data provide insights into the information priorities of health professionals, allowing further improvements to the way information is organized and displayed.



Work Team



- Pierina TORRENS
- Julian VERDINELLI^a
- Luciana RUBIN^a
- Fernando BINDER^a
- Soledad DIAZ^a

- Laura GAMBARTE^a
- Pilar AVILA^a
- Daniel Roberto LUNA^a

a. Department of Health Informatics, Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires