

Topical Antibiotics Prescribing in Surgical Ward of a Public Hospital

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SUMMARY. Using of topical antibiotics as a prophylactic agent before surgeries is common globally. The current descriptive study aimed to describe the prescribing of topical antibiotics in surgical ward of a public hospital in Al-Kharj. The data were collected and analyzed descriptively using Excel sheet. During 2020, 102 prescriptions contained a topical antibiotic were prescribed in the surgical ward for 51 patients. Most of them were males (64.71%), the age of 21.57% of them was between 40 and 49 years. The most commonly prescribed topical antibiotic was fusidic acid that was prescribed alone in 60.79% of the prescriptions and combined with hydrocortisone in 2.94% of the prescriptions followed by silver sulfadiazine (10.79%), and moxifloxacin (9.80%). More than 44% of the topical antibiotics were prescribed as an ointment and 32.35% were prescribed as a cream. Surgeons should assess the benefit–risk ratio before using topical antibiotics; they should implement the recommendations of the surgical guidelines and they should continuously attend workshops and lectures about the wise use of antibiotics for surgical patients.

RESUMEN. El uso de antibióticos tópicos como agente profiláctico antes de las cirugías es común en todo el mundo. El estudio descriptivo actual tuvo como objetivo describir la prescripción de antibióticos tópicos en la sala de cirugía de un hospital público en Al-Kharj. Los datos fueron recolectados y analizados descriptivamente mediante hoja de Excel. Durante 2020 se prescribieron 102 recetas que contenían un antibiótico tópico en el quirófano a 51 pacientes. La mayoría eran del sexo masculino (64,71%) y la edad del 21,57% de ellos estaba entre 40 y 49 años. El antibiótico tópico más prescrito fue el ácido fusídico que se prescribió solo en el 60,79% de las prescripciones y combinado con hidrocortisona en el 2,94% de las prescripciones, seguido de sulfadiazina de plata (10,79%) y moxifloxacino (9,80%). Más del 44% de los antibióticos tópicos se recetaron en forma de pomada y el 32,35% en forma de crema. Los cirujanos deben evaluar la relación riesgo-beneficio antes de usar antibióticos tópicos; deben implementar las recomendaciones de las guías quirúrgicas y deben asistir continuamente a talleres y conferencias sobre el uso inteligente de antibióticos para pacientes quirúrgicos.

KEY WORDS: prescribing, surgical, topical antibiotics, usage.

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