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Prescribing patterns of antimicrobials in diabetic foot ulcer in a tertiary care hospital

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Background: Diabetic foot ulcer (DFU) is one of the dreadful complications of Diabetes Mellitus and is the leading cause of hospitalization among diabetic patients. Approximately 15 to 20% of the diabetic patients have foot problems and around 85% of foot amputations are due to inadequate treatment of diabetic foot ulcers and infections. There are scanty reports of data regarding the prescribing patterns of antibacterial therapy to treat DFUs.

Objectives: To study the prescribing pattern of Antimicrobial Agents (AMAs) in the management of DFUs.

Methods: Data was collected from records of 80 in patients with a diagnosis of DFU from King George Hospital, Visakhapatnam. The class of AMAs, the formulations, the dose, route, frequency, duration of administration were analyzed using Microsoft excel version 2007.

Results: A total of 80 cases were evaluated with a mean age of 45.6 years. Average number of AMAs prescribed for patient is 2.5. Ceftriaxone and metronidazole (75%) were the most common empirical regimen used. The choices of AMAs were modified in 37.5% cases after culture sensitivity tests. Out of 80 patients 45 (56.25%) received only single drug formulation antibacterials, 5 (6.25%) received only fixed dose combinations (FDCs) and 30 (37.5%) received single drug formulations initially later shifted to FDCs. 70 patients received injectables only and 10 received injectables and oral formulations.

Conclusion: Third generation cephalosporins comprised the major class of AMAs prescribed in the management of DFUs. Single drug formulations were preferred over fixed dose combinations. In most of the cases parenteral route was preferred.

Biography

Ramadi Prameela has completed her undergraduate degree from Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada affiliated to NTRUHS, Vijayawada. She is presently pursuing her postgraduate degree in Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam. Presently she is engaged in a clinical study to compare the efficacy and safety of Ferrous Sulfate versus Iron Polymaltose complex in female patients with Iron deficiency anemia.

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