

ABSTRACT

This thesis deals with the role of nurses in the administration of drugs in the intensive care unit. The goal is to find consistency between the legal and factual state of drug administration, ie analyze, what are the non-medical healthcare professionals authorized in accordance with applicable legislation and internal regulations of the medical device to do and what they are actually able to perform safely.

The theoretical part defines the terms related to the administration of medicines. I deal with the skills of paramedical staff, indications of medicines, their administration, pharmacotherapy, mistakes and evaluation of the quality and safety of health services. The theoretical part deals with the current status of this issue and also provides insight into the history of drug administration.

In the empirical part of the thesis I work with the results that I received questionnaires. Respondents are nurses, paramedics, nurses of leading nursing management and physicians. Individual items are analyzed and used to answer defined research questions.

The research implies that the nurse of nursing management are able to organize an intensive care unit activities and maintain procedures, to ensure quality and safe administration of medicines. General nurses and paramedics are able to meet the doctor's office on the basis of conditional medication "as needed" and according to the patient's condition and current values of laboratory tests. A problem area is the addition of concentrated electrolytes to infusion solutions which are already administered to patients intravenously and application of medicines without medical indication. I find insufficient knowledge of competencies related to the administration of blood products and the lack of knowledge in the field of major drug groups and side effects of drugs administered in intensive care. Finally, I describe the recommendations that were emerged from the data collected.

Keywords: medicine administration, prescription, incomplete prescription, nurses competence, medical errors