



Osservatorio Nazionale

delle Buone Pratiche sulla sicurezza nella Sanità

Scheda per la rappresentazione dell'esperienza

Level: Local Health Authority

Topics:

- Reorganization of clinical-care pathways
- Organizational solutions for COVID patients management

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Home delivery of antiretroviral therapy during COVID-19 pandemic

Purpose and scope

The procedure herein described was developed to manage medication therapies during the COVID-19 pandemic of patients with pre-existing diseases and most at risk. Home delivery of medication therapy aims to reduce movement of patients at risk and their exposure to the infection.

The procedure is meant for medication therapies for patients with HIV.

Operating procedures and responsibilities

In compliance with the provisions regarding HIV patients, the Infectious Disease Unit took charge of medication distribution so as to ensure the patients' privacy. Therefore, in the first step of preparation of the anonymized medication package, it should remain under the responsibility of the Infectious Disease Unit. The supervising nurse of the Infectious Disease Unit prepares the package including the drug prescribed by the specialist, the prescription/therapeutic plan where patient's data are report, the active ingredient, dosage and any important notes for the patient.

The patient's initials and date of birth are put outside the package.

The anonymized packages are then sent to the pharmacy, which is responsible for their delivery.

Delivery is organized through the organization's transport service, once a week, every Monday morning. In case there are no deliveries to be made, the service is informed through the dedicated numbers.

The pharmacist prepares the documents to be attached to the personalized therapy; both original and copy of the transport document are attached to each anonymized package with the patient's initials, address and phone number. A simplified information for personal data processing during Covid emergency is provided.

Patients are contacted in advance by the staff of the Infectious Disease Unit to provide information about the delivery mode and times.

The courier service is given a document with all patients' initials, addresses and phone numbers. To confirm successful delivery, the courier put date and time of delivery on both original and copy



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of the transport document, asks the patient to sign it on delivery and then gives the copy of the transport document back to the pharmacy.

In case of no response, the courier must give the package back to the pharmacy.

Between March 15 and April 30 2020, 202 deliveries were carried out:

- 170 packages delivered thanks to the Red Cross
- 32 packages delivered thanks to other courier services

No packages were given back.

Personalized provision of hydroxychloroquine during COVID-19 pandemic

Purpose and scope

The procedure was developed in order to deal with the COVID-19 emergency and the consequent need to provide hydroxychloroquine in a targeted way thus avoiding administration errors and product waste considering possible shortage of drug.

The procedure is meant for patients treated for COVID-19 infection upon discharge from hospitalization or specialist visit and to residents of nursing homes and community hospitals.

Operating procedures and responsibilities

The Regional Guidance regarding medicines containing hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine recommend identifying organizational solutions aimed at:

- Avoiding waste of product
- Avoiding medication errors

In particular, guidance recommend that the exact number of pills is provided, so that the entire period of care may be covered.

In light of the above, the Pharmacy Unit developed the procedure herein described about treatment of hospitalized patients and household patients discharged from hospitals or after a specialist visit and residents in nursing homes and community hospitals with hydroxychloroquine.

1. The Galenic laboratory prepares the anonymized kit with the medicine. The kit include enough pills to cover the treatment period, copy of the instruction sheet, labelling according to Good Preparation Rules, including the product's commercial name and dosage, batch number and expiry date, number of pills included and progressive kit number, which replaces batch number.

The kit are the following:

- MONOTHERAPY KIT: composed of 16 hydroxychloroquine sulfate tablets 200 mg
- THERAPY KIT ASSOCIATED WITH ANTIVIRAL DRUGS: composed of 14 hydroxychloroquine sulfate tablets 200 mg

One kit is enough for one-week therapy at the indicated dosage.

2. Kit preparation is subject to prescription of masterly galenic preparation
3. Since the process involves drugs unpacking, to ensure compliance with the legislation, when dispensing the kit the hospital or residential facility taking charge of patient's care



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sends the prescription to the following e-mail address:
farmacia.galenica.bl@aulss1.veneto.it.

The form has to be duly filled in and then sent when prescribed.

Fig. 1- Example of labelling

		IDROSSICLOROCHINA SOLFATO 200 mg	
		KIT MONOTERAPIA	
<u>uso orale</u>		16 compresse	<u>primo giorno: 400 mg x 2/die – a successivi: 200 mg x 2/die</u>
Kit numero	01/20/CoVM	T < 25°C	
Preparato il:	07/04/2020	<i>contiene anche lattosio</i>	
Plaquenil 200 mg compresse rivestite Sanofi	LOTTO:	456789	SCADENZA: 30/10/2024
Paziente:	001	Dott.	
Laboratorio di Galenica Clinica – 0437514347			

- The Pharmacy keeps a computer-based register, which permits traceability of the drugs included in the dispensed kits.
20 hydroxychloroquine monotherapy kits and 9 politherapy kits have been provided between April 7 2020 and March 4 2020.