

Management of Personal Protective Equipment by the Pharmacy Service in a Public Hospital of Córdoba, Argentina, to Guarantee their Responsible and Rational Use within the Pandemic Context †

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Abstract: In Covid-19 Pandemic, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is essential to prevent viral transmission and protect parts of the body exposed to risks. The Hospital Pharmacy guarantees its quality and supply according to current regulations. The Hospital Nacional de Clínicas asked the Pharmacy to train Healthcare Personnel (HP) on PPE use. This work aims to show the work the Pharmacy Service has done in managing PPE during 2020. The study was comparative and retrospective (2019-2020) on the dispensing of PPE with a review of the literature and protocols for training. The PPE increased from 6 varieties to 14. Blood-resistant gowns, N95 masks, and goggles increased their use by 1726% / 954% / 590%, respectively. Regular gowns and surgical masks were the most widely dispensed. N95 masks, face masks, goggles, and overalls were custom dispensed to 859 HP, a total of 3192 units. The most demanding services were: ICU, General Surgery, and the Emergency Room, with 5.88, 4.29, and 3.42 PPE per HP, respectively. The training was personalized by the poster (description of PPE, use, and request modality). With this management and training, the Pharmacy managed to control the excess and shortage of these resources, and responsible and rational use is essential in this context.

Keywords: personal protective equipment; management; prevention; training; dispensing; provision; quality guarantee.

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Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.