

ANTIBIOTIC USAGE IN A SINGLE SPECIAL CARE NEONATAL UNIT IN WARSAW

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Background: Current and detailed knowledge of antibiotic use is essential in order to implement strategies for reducing the overuse and misuse of antibiotics and spreading of resistant microorganisms. **Objective:** To assess antibiotic consumption in the Special Care Neonatal Unit (SCNU) in a single district secondary level hospital in Warsaw (Poland) in 2011. **Material and methods:** Data on the quantitative and qualitative use of antibiotics were reported by hospital pharmacy. The antibiotic usage was calculated in daily defined doses (DDDs) per 100 patient days and DDD per 100 admissions according to the Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification (ATC) system. Antibiotics were ranked by volume of DDDs and the number of antibiotics that accounted for 90% and 100% of the total volume, DU90% and DU100% respectively (where DU stands for drug utilization). **Results:** 15 antibiotics were used for treatment and prophylaxis at the SCNUUnit, DU90% was 6 (ampicillin, amoxicillin with clavulanic acid, ampicillin, gentamycin and ceftazidim). The total antibiotic use was 28,9 DDDs per 100 person days (352,17 DDDs/ 100 admissions). The penicillins were the most often prescribed antibiotics (79,5%), followed by aminoglycosides (12%). The cost of penicillins and aminoglycosides consumed 57% of total costs of antibiotics. The cost of third generation cephalosporines (18%) and meropenem (10%) was also respectively high. **Conclusions:** Our data may serve as the background for future comparisons describing the consumption of antibiotics at the same ward in different time periods and for comparisons with other hospital wards in Poland and other countries.