Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia The National University of Malaysia | HCTM Hospital Canselor Tuanku Muhriz

Medication Safety Bulletin

Strives to promulgate preventable medication errors amongst healthcare professionals

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LET'S PREVENT PRESCRIBING ERRORS

ERROR 1: DRUG-DRUG INTERACTION

The prescribing error: Prescribing Akurit-4 tablets with Dabigatran (PRADAXA®)

Why is it an error: Akurit-4 contains Rifampicin 150 mg, Isoniazid 75 mg, Pyrazinamide 400 mg, and Ethambutol 275 mg. Rifampicin interacts with Dabigatran significantly.

Explanation:

Rifampicin interacts significantly with NOACs. Rifampicin is a strong inducer of CYP3A4 and P-glycoprotein that may speed up elimination of NOACs

- **Dabigatran**
- **Rivaroxaban**
- **Edoxaban**

leading to **Decreased serum concentrations of NOACs**

According to Uptodate & Micromedex:

Interactions of Rifampicin with different anticoagulants :

Drug interaction with Rifampicin	Risk Rating	Reliability rating	Suggested management
Dabigatran Rivaroxaban Edoxaban	X: Avoid combination	High-Intermediate	Avoid concomitant use
Warfarin	D: Consider therapy modification	Highest	Rifampicin may decrease serum concentrations of Vitamin K Antagonists. Dose adjustment of warfarin will be required. Monitor for decreased INR if Rifampicin is initiated. Monitor for increased INR if Rifampicin is discontinued.

Warfarin, is the anticoagulant with the least degree of interaction with Rifampicin. May consider using Warfarin when Rifampicin is initiated.

ERROR 2: WRONG DRUG

GENERIC name prescribing reduces errors!

ATOZET tablets (Atorvastatin 40mg + Ezetimibe 10mg) were prescribed when it was supposed to be just **Atorvastatin** 40mg tablets.

To prevent:

Each drug has only 1 Generic name but many Brand names

Use ACTIVE INGREDIENT/GENERIC NAME instead of brand name

ATOZET (brand name) ≠ Atorvastatin

LIPITOR (brand name) = Atorvastatin

ERROR 3: WRONG FORMULATION

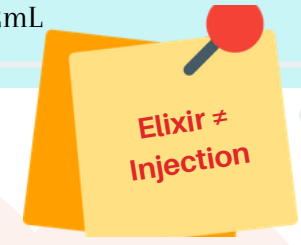
Don't FORGET to check the FORMULATION

Bromhexine syrup was prescribed instead of what was supposed to be, Bromhexine injection.

To prevent, note that:

Our formulations are;

- Bromhexine **Elixir** 4mg/5mL (syrup form)
- Bromhexine **Inj** 4mg/2mL
- Bromhexine **Tab** 8mg



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