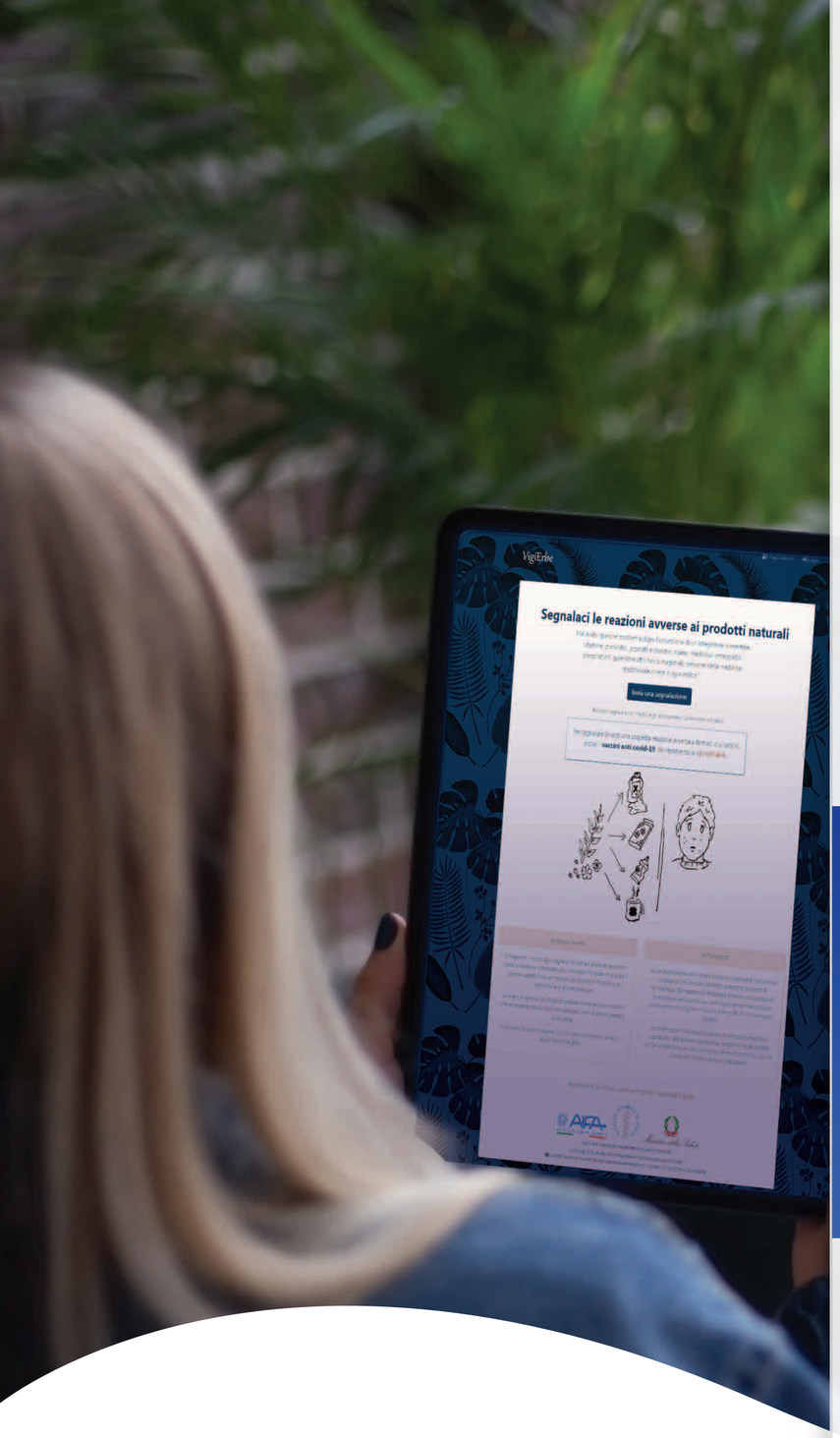


REGIONE AUTONOMA FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA
ISTITUTO DI RICOVERO E CURA A CARATTERE SCIENTIFICO
CRO di Aviano - Istituto Nazionale Tumori

CRO AVIANO

ISoP

International Society of Pharmacovigilance
21ST ANNUAL MEETING
20 - 23 September 2022 - Verona, Italy
A New Era of Pharmacovigilance: Challenges and Opportunities

HERBAL AND TRADITIONAL MEDICINES AND DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

Safety of therapies and use of supplements.
The pharmacy clinical desk experience
at the National Cancer Centre CRO Aviano

Introduction

More and more cancer patients are using complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). CAM is mainly used in addition to conventional treatments to reduce side effects and improve quality of life [1].

The Clinical Pharmacy Desk (PCD) is a free consultancy service offered at the CRO Aviano to patients and health workers attending the facility. On the one hand, the service evaluates the safety of therapies by detecting possible interactions (drugs-supplements or other products) and the inappropriateness of use. Indeed, the intake of these products may not be safe when associated with conventional anticancer treatment [2]. On the other, it promotes patient empowerment and informed use of these products.

The PCD activity contributes to the safety of care and safeguarding patients' quality of life.

Methods

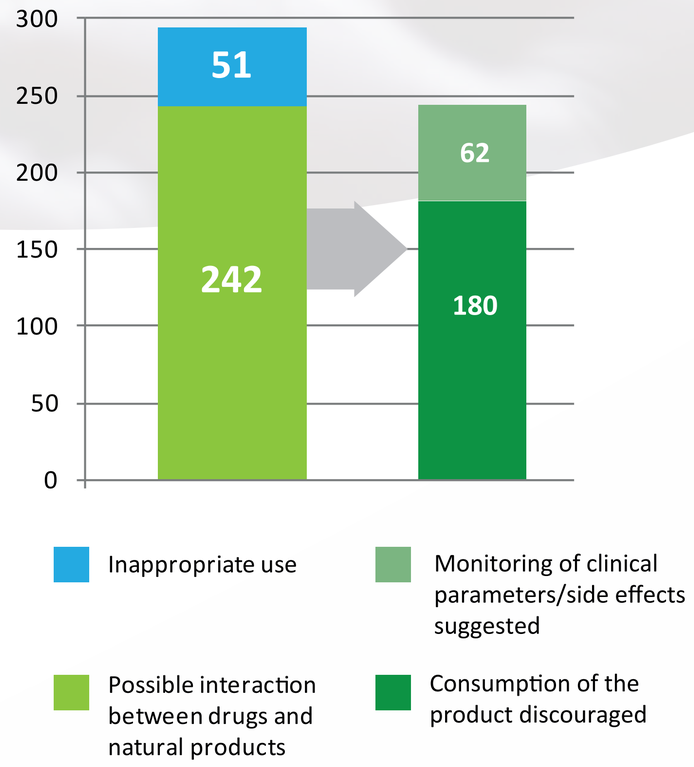
The PCD carries out safety assessments by active interception through structured patient interviews and on-demand access. The current clinical surveillance program, active since June 2019, involves 278 patients in follow-up for 24 months. Clinical data are periodically updated on a dedicated database by checking medical records and interviewing patients. Near misses are detected by evaluating multiple databases and reading the literature from relevant sources. The suspected ADRs are reported on the "VigiErbe" portal [3]. At the same time, feedback on the assessment is given to the patient, and personalized information is provided through interviews and dedicated informational materials. Sharing relevant information with the oncologist is done through discussion and implementation of the patient's medical record.

Aims

- Detect near misses (interactions and inappropriateness of use)
- Educate the patient on an informed use of supplements and other products
- Detect adverse drug reactions (ADRs) from the intake of these products.

Results

The active surveillance program has detected 293 near misses. In particular, 242 possible interactions between drugs and natural products were identified. In 180 cases, consumption of these products was discouraged, and in 62 cases, monitoring of clinical parameters and side effects was suggested. Inappropriate use was found for 51 supplements or other products.
Finally, the number of suspected adverse reactions reported to VigiErbe was 4 (50% serious and 50% non-serious).



ADRs Reported

ADRs	N° reported	Percentage
Serious	2	50%
Non serious	2	50%
Total	4	

Conclusion

Through active detection and personalized information, the PCD offers patients an assessment of the safety of CAM associated with conventional anticancer therapies. This service allows identifying near misses, contributing to increase safety of therapies and patient empowerment. This promotes the prevention of risks related to the intake of supplements and other products in patients treated at the CRO Aviano.

Authors

Sabrina Orzetti (1), Emanuela Ferrarin (2), Paolo Baldo (1)

(1) Hospital Pharmacy Unit of the "Centro di Riferimento Oncologico (CRO) di Aviano IRCCS", Aviano, Italy;
(2) Scientific and Patients Library of the "Centro di Riferimento Oncologico (CRO) di Aviano IRCCS", Aviano, Italy

Graphic design: Riccardo Bianchet, Scientific Directorate of the "Centro di Riferimento Oncologico (CRO) di Aviano IRCCS", Aviano,Italy

References

[1] Bosacki C, Vallard A, Gras M, Daguenet E, Morisson S, Méry B, Jmour O, Guy JB, Magné N. Les médecines alternatives complémentaires en oncologie [Complementary and alternative medicines in cancer patients]. Bull Cancer. 2019 May;106(5):479-491. French. doi: 10.1016/j.bulcan.2019.02.011. Epub 2019 Apr 23. PMID: 31023481.

[2] Goey AK, Mooiman KD, Beijnen JH, Schellens JH, Meijerman I. Relevance of in vitro and clinical data for predicting CYP3A4-mediated herb-drug interactions in cancer patients. Cancer Treat Rev. 2013 Nov;39(7):773-83. doi: 10.1016/j.ctrv.2012.12.008. Epub 2013 Feb 8. PMID: 23394826.

[3] Istituto Superiore di Sanità. Vigierbe Available online: https://www.vigierbe.it/ (accessed on 10 May 2022).

ELSEVIER Embase® DRUGBANK CAM Cancer | Complementary and Alterna Medicine for Cancer
RxList The Internet Drug Index
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Examine