The gap in safe handling of cytotoxic drugs needs to be filled in low and middle-income countries

Safe handling of cytotoxic medicines in low and middle income countries - An overview of practices

Sandrine von Grünigen¹,², Antoine Geissbühler², Pascal Bonnabry¹,³

¹ Pharmacy, University Hospitals of Geneva, Geneva (HUG), Switzerland
² Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva, Switzerland
³ Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences of western Switzerland, Geneva, Switzerland

Method

- Online survey June 2018 to March 2019
- Self-assessment of the cytotoxic process using Cyto-SAT tool *
- 134 items, 10 domains evaluated
- Scoring system from 1 (no activity) to 4 (fully implemented)
- Data recorded on an online platform (www.datapharma.ch/cyto-SAT)

*a self-assessment tool previously developed through a Delphi consensus method, see Poster P-002

Results

- Median % of implementation of safe practices

   All domains

   Preparation sub-domains

   • 73% of overall implementation of safe practices (Q1 49; Q3 83)
   • High differences in practices between low-income and upper middle-income countries
   • Participants suggested training, mentoring and collaboration as a support to improve practices