



VEGETABLE PREPARATIONS SOLD IN COMPOUND PHARMACIES IN ITAJAÍ-SC

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INTRODUCTION

The search for plant-based ingredients in the compounding Pharmacies has been growing, and with it, the health risk increases due to the increase in suppliers of such ingredients. Brazilian legislation exempts pharmacies from authenticity tests in the case of qualified suppliers. Thus, this study aims to identify the main plant-based ingredients sold in compounding pharmacies and the information about them.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Data were collected from three compounding pharmacies in Itajaí-Santa Catarina, Brazil, classifying it according to the part of the plant used, the physical form, the route of application, the therapeutic use in comparison with the literature, and the possible markers to verify their authenticity.

RESULTS

Pharmacy A purchases the most number of different herbal preparations (427), followed by C (325) and B (104). In these preparations, the most used parts of the plants are leaves (A: 26.4%; B: 28.6%; C: 30.9%), followed by bark (A: 16.1%; B: 14.3%; C: 14.0%) and flowers (A: 12.0%; B: 11.6%; C: 12.7%). Rhizomes are less used (A: 2.3%; B: 3.6%; C: 2.9%). Regarding the type of plant preparation, in Pharmacy A, dry extracts predominate (45.8%), followed by volatile oils (23.9%), tinctures (15.2%) and other formulations (21.1%). Pharmacy B presented dry extracts (32.8%), glycolic extracts (21.9%), tinctures (20.3%) and oils

(15.6%). Pharmacy C presents greater use of dry extracts (46.1%) and diversification among other formulations (21.6%), volatile oils (17.0%) and tinctures (17.4%). Regarding information on chemical markers that allow attesting to the authenticity of herbal preparations, Pharmacy A presents 64.64%, B 64.42%. To C, it was not identified this information. With number of batches supplied by the pharmacies, the analysis certificates were requested from the suppliers, The response rate was: Fragon (31 of 103), Galena (0 of 17) and other suppliers (205 requests without return). From the certificates received, 87.1% were rejected due to the absence of the signature of the technical manager (7.4%), absence of the date (66.7%) and lack of references (74.1%).

CONCLUSIONS

There are a considerable volume of plant preparations sold in compounding pharmacies, with a predominance of dry extracts, with deficiencies in the traceability and quality of the documentation provided by suppliers. These data pointed out the need for greater regulatory control and inspection to guarantee the safety and efficacy of plant formulations sold in the compounding sector.

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