We are IntechOpen, the world's leading publisher of Open Access books Built by scientists, for scientists

6,300

Open access books available

172,000

International authors and editors

190M

Downloads

Our authors are among the

154

Countries delivered to

TOP 1%

most cited scientists

12.2%

Contributors from top 500 universities

WEB OF SCIENCE™

Selection of our books indexed in the Book Citation Index
in Web of Science™ Core Collection (BKCI)

Interested in publishing with us?
Contact book.department@intechopen.com

Numbers displayed above are based on latest data collected.
For more information visit www.intechopen.com

Hepatotoxicity by Drugs

Alejandra Cano Paniagua and Pedro Amariles

Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5772/intechopen.72005>

Abstract

Hepatotoxicity is the injury or liver damage caused by exposure to drugs; it is an adverse drug reaction that may be uncommon but serious. The hepatic injury can be classified into hepatocellular, cholestatic and mixed, caused by increase in alanine aminotransferase and alkaline phosphatase than upper limit of normal. The risk factors include idiosyncrasy, age, gender, alcohol consumption, concomitant use of other drugs, previous or underlying liver disease, genetic and environmental factors. Liver toxicity manifestations are generally accompanied by nonspecific symptoms such as abdominal pain, jaundice, fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, pruritus and rash. Identification of hepatotoxicity is a complex process to perform; therefore, clinical scales have been developed, such as the Roussel Uclaf Causality Assessment Method (CIOMS/RUCAM) and the Clinical Diagnostic Scale (M & V CDS). Additionally, there is no specific treatment for hepatotoxicity, which is based on suspending the suspected drug and treating symptoms. The most commonly associated pharmacological groups are antibiotics, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory analgesics (NSAIDs), antidepressants and anticonvulsants. Drug-induced liver injury has been an adverse event, hard to identify, prevent and treat; thereby, the pharmacist intervention can contribute to the diminution of the deleterious effects in patient health.

Keywords: drugs, hepatotoxicity, drug-induced liver injury, anti-infective agents, antineoplastic agents, pharmacist intervention

1. Introduction

The objective of this chapter is to explain hepatotoxicity by drugs and provide relevance to a health problem that can lead to death if neglected; even though there is published information about it, it is still limited in some parts of the world. On the other hand, it is intended to disclose some activities developed by a pharmacist in a case of one patient with hepatotoxicity by drugs, which can contribute to the improvement of a patient's health status by helping to

- [42] Amariles P, Giraldo N, Faus M. Interacciones medicamentosas: Aproximación para establecer y evaluar su relevancia clínica. *Medicina Clínica (Barcelona)*. 2007;**129**(1):27-35
- [43] Cano A, Amariles P. Liver toxicity caused by drugs: A structure review. *Rev Colomb Gastroenterol*. Forthcoming in 2017;**32**(4)
- [44] Cano A, Amariles PA. Structured review of hepatotoxic medicines during pregnancy. *Revista Colombiana de Gastroenterología*. 2017;**32**(1):35-43