

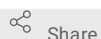


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Potentially inappropriate prescriptions of antipsychotics for patients with dementia

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ABSTRACT

Potentially inappropriate prescriptions of antipsychotics for patients with dementia

Background/objectives: Dementias are neurodegenerative and progressive diseases of the central nervous system. The objective of this study was to determine the frequency of potentially inappropriate prescriptions of antipsychotics in a group of patients diagnosed with dementia in Colombia.

Design: A cross-sectional study.

Setting: A population database for drug dispensing of outpatients in Colombia.

Participants: All patients with a diagnosis of dementia in the database.

Measurements: Potentially inappropriate prescriptions of antidementia drugs, antipsychotics agents were identified. Descriptive statistics and bivariate and multivariate analyses were performed.

Results: A total of 11372 patients with dementia were identified; 66.6% were women, and the mean age was 80.5 ± 9.6 years. Alzheimer's disease was the most frequent diagnosis (76.6%). A total of 69.0% of patients received antidementia drugs. A total of 37.1% of patients received some antipsychotic, especially atypical antipsychotics (31.0%). Increased age, being treated with memantine, simultaneously presenting with anxiety, depression, and psychotic disorders, and concomitantly receiving anticonvulsants, bronchodilators and benzodiazepines were associated with a greater probability of being prescribed antipsychotics.

Conclusions: More than one-third of patients with dementia received antipsychotic prescriptions, which are considered potentially inappropriate because they can worsen cognitive decline and favor the occurrence of adverse events.

ATTACHMENTS

[DataBase.xlsx](#)

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KEYWORDS

Dementia; Alzheimer Disease; Dementia Vascular; Antipsychotic agents; Pharmacoepidemiology

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