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Protocol for Medication Possession Ratio (MPR) Calculation

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ABSTRACT

The Medication Possession Ratio (MPR) provides an estimate of patient adherence based on the actual possession of medications. It is a metric that offers crucial information to assist in the development of strategies for the proper management of chronic diseases, such as Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML). RStudio is a free, open-source software maintained by an active community of developers, ensuring frequent updates and specialized packages in the healthcare domain. This software can be easily integrated into the practices of healthcare professionals for MPR calculations, optimizing their activities and allowing more time for direct patient care. In this context, a protocol was developed using the R programming language for MPR calculation, utilizing a spreadsheet with Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor dispensation data. This script provides flexibility for MPR calculations to be applied to any chronic disease.

BEFORE START INSTRUCTIONS

The RStudio program must be installed on the computer. If it is not installed, the link below provides the tutorial for download.

https://posit.co/download/rstudio-desktop/

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working

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Installing the packages

In the specific context of this script, the section "Installing the packages" is dedicated to installing additional packages that are necessary to execute the subsequent analyses. Each line install.packages("package_name") installs a specific package. Press Ctrl + Enter to run the code. The code is as follows:

Command

install.packages("tidyverse")
install.packages("openxlsx")
install.packages("psych")
install.packages("gtsummary")
install.packages("flextable")
install.packages("magrittr")

Loading the packages

2 Every time you open the software, you should load the following packages:

Command

library(tidyverse) # Loads the Tidyverse, a collection of packages for data manipulation and visual ization, including popular packages like dplyr and ggplot2.

library(openxlsx) # Loads the openxlsx library, which is used for spreadsheet manipulation and w orking with Excel files.

library(psych) # Loads the psych library, providing functions for statistical analysis and psycho metrics.

library(gtsummary) # Loads the gtsummary library, used for creating summary tables in a concis e and elegant manner.

library(flextable) # Loads the flextable library, providing a flexible approach to creating tables with various formatting options.

library(magrittr) # Loads the magrittr library, facilitating data manipulation using the pipe operat or %>%. The pipe operator is used to chain operations together in a readable and efficient way.

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Setting the working directory to a specific path

- 3 Setting the working directory is important because it determines the default location for reading and writing files.
 - 1- In RStudio, go to the "Session" menu.
 - 2- Select "Set Working Directory" and choose "Choose Directory..."
 - 3- Navigate to the directory
 - # Alternatively, you can use the command below:

Command

Setwd ("C:/Path/To/Your/Directory") #put the path of your directory inside the parenthesis

Reading CSV file

- # Here we read the data file called "file.mpr." and store it in a variable called MPR.
 - # The read.csv2 function is used to read data from a CSV file where the column separator is a semicolon

(;).

The argument "file.mpr" represents the name of the file to be read. You should download the spreadsheet with the medication dispensation data from your institution's dispensation system. In this example, the obtained spreadsheet contains: Medication name, number of dispensed units, and patient medical record number. We chose to use the medical record number to avoid homonyms.

Command

MPR <- read.csv2("file.mpr.csv") #Add .csv after the file name

Now, the variable MPR contains the data from the CSV file, and you can manipulate or perform additional analyses as needed.

Selecting the columns of interest

Now, we select the columns that are relevant to our analysis and store them in a new variable called MPR1.

Command

MPR1 <- MPR %>%
select(Drug, Dispensed, Medical.record)

Inspecting the Database

6 We use the "glimpse" command to visualize the structure of our MPR1 dataset.

Command		
glimpse(MPR1)		

Transforming the medical.record column into character

7 In this step, we convert the by "Medical.record" column into characters to ensure it is handled correctly.

Command

MPR1\$Medical.record <- as.character(MPR1\$Medical.record)</pre>

Calculating the percentage

8 We perform calculations in the "Dispensed" column based on the conditions specified for each "drug".

We also group the data by "Medical.record "and "drug" and calculate the percentagem.

Command

```
MPR1 <- MPR1 %>%
 mutate(
  Dispensed = Dispensed / 365, #calculation for a period of 1 year)
  Dispensed = case_when(
   Drug == "Imatinibe 100mg" ~ Dispensed / 2, #referring to two tablets per day. In the case of 3
tablets, divide by 3, and so on.
   Drug == "Dasatinibe 20mg" ~ Dispensed / 2,
   Drug == "Nilotinibe 200mg" ~ Dispensed / 4,
   Drug == "Imatinibe 400mg" ~ Dispensed,
   Drug == "Dasatinibe 100mg" ~ Dispensed
  )
 ) %>%
 group by(Medical.record, Drug) %>%
 summarise(
  Porcentagem = ifelse(sum(Dispensed) > 100, 100, round(sum(Dispensed), 2) * 100),
  .groups = "drop"
 ) %>%
 mutate(Porcentagem = ifelse(Porcentagem > 100, 100, Porcentagem),
     Porcentagem = format(Porcentagem, digits = 2, nsmall = 2, scientific = FALSE) %>%
      paste0("%"))
```

Sorting the table alphabetically by Drug

9 Now we sort the data alphabetically based on the "Drug" column.

Command

```
MPR1 <- MPR1 %>%
  arrange(Drug)
```

Saving the result to a .docx file

Here we create a flexible table (ft) and adjust its properties such as width and alignment.

Command

Saving the .docx document

11 Finally, we save the document with the name "MPR_Percentagem.docx" in the specified location.

Command

save_as_docx(ft, path = "C:/Path/To/Your/Directory/MPR_Percentagem.docx") #put the path of your
directory inside the parenthesis