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KEY WORD: COST-EFFECTIVENESS/DRUG USE EVALUATION/THIRD

GENERATION CEPHALOSPORINS/URINARY TRACT SURGERY

KALAYANEE JITMAHAWONG : CLINICAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

DRUG USE EVALUATION OF THIRD GENERATION CEPHALOSPORINS

FOR PATIENTS IN URINARY TRACT SURGERY AT RAJAVITHI

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The purpose of this research was to study the clinical economic impact of drug use evaluation (DUE) of the third generation Cephalosporins using cost-effectiveness analysis and cost saving methods. It was the quasi-experimental design with the pre-test and post-test measures. The study was conducted at the Urological Ward of Rajavithi Hospital during August 1, 1994 till February 28, 1995. All of the patients during the study period were included in the research. The pre-test period or before the implementation of the DUE, from August 1, 1994 to November 15, 1994, included 226 patients with 70 cases (30.97%) using the third generation Cephalosporins. Twenty-four out of 208 patients, accounted for 11.54%, were prescribed the third generation Cephalosporins during the post-test period or after the DUE was implemented, covering the period from November 16, 1994 till February 28, 1995. The study showed that while the appropriate use of drugs was increased from 25.32% during the pre-test period to 62.50% after the DUE implementation, the inappropriate use of drugs was decreased from 74.68% to 37.50% for the same study period. With the decreased rate, from 54.43% (43 cases) to 37.50% (9 cases) of those with the inappropriate use of drugs, the unnecessary use of drugs still presented as the major problem of the inappropriate use of the third generation Cephalosporins, especially Ceftriaxone. The cost-effectiveness analysis compared 2,952.27 baht per percent of the appropriate use for the pre-test period with 2,508.18 baht for the post-test period. The result implied the lower total costs of the drug use evaluation program for the same outcome. The study also found 1,519.10 baht per patient or 343,316.60 baht of cost saving for 226 patients.

It was concluded that the drug use evaluation of the third generation Cephalosporins was a suggested program for the hospital since it resulted in the increase in the appropriate use and the decrease in the inappropriate use and the unnecessary use of drugs.

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