# DRUG INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS
# A NEW SOFTWARE PROGRAM AND DATABASE

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## 1. AIM

To design a software program that provides patients individualized information about their drug therapies to those at risk for noncompliance that overcomes the disadvantages of other programs for drug information already existing in our country.

## 2. METHODS

- **Database:** FileMaker Pro 4.0
- **Drug information**: generic and trade names, national code, formulation, dose, principal action and indications, recommendations and adverse effects.
- **Patient, prescriber and pharmacist information**
- **Quality control system for data entry**
- **Dosing calendar for tapering doses** for drugs on a decreasing schedule like corticoids or anticoagulant drugs
- **Report generation:**

√ **Drug administration timetable** (figure 1), from 6:00 a.m. to midnight, of the drugs that the patient must take

√ **Drug informationannex** (figure2): a simple, 7-10-line explanation of each drug prescribed.

√ **Prescription** (figure 3), that will be signed by the prescribing physician

- **Patient, prescriber and pharmacist information**

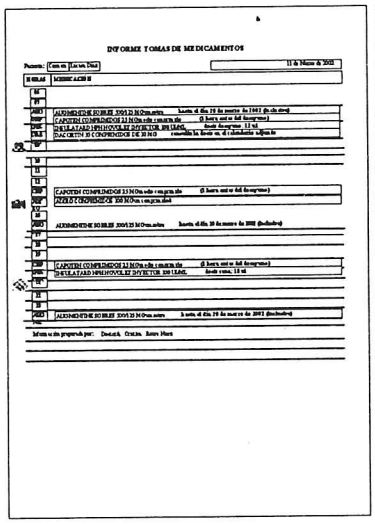



**Figure 1.** Drug administration timetable

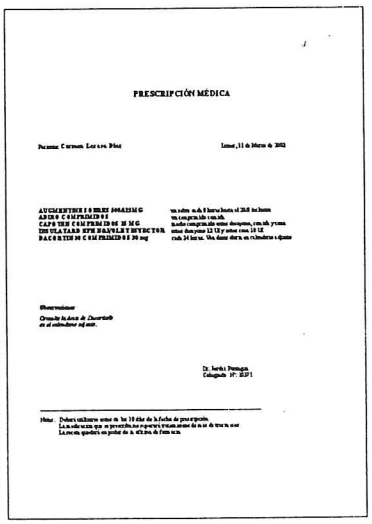



**Figure 3.** Physician's prescription

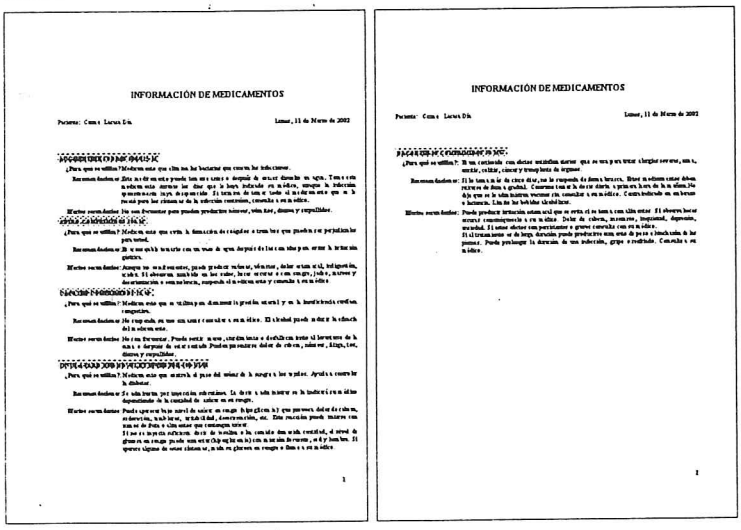



**Figure 2.** Drug information annex

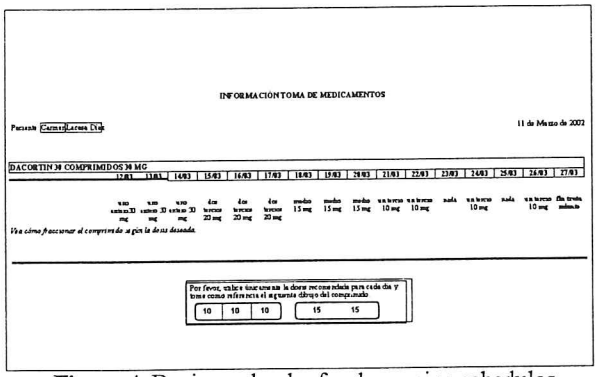



**Figure 4.** Dosing calendar for decreasing schedules

## 3. RESULTS

From July 1999 to February 2002:

- 537 drug records have been prepared
- 356 information deliveries made to patients
- Average: 5 drugs/report; 4 pages/patient

## 4. DISCUSSION

- The drug database can be customized to users' needs (patient populations, different languages, etc).
- Some patients who have received information once have requested it again from their physician.
- Program cost is lower than that of alternative programs.
- Physician and patient acceptance, reasonable price and program flexibility show that it could be applied in other health-care settings (physicians' offices, community pharmacies, etc).

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

- The program and the drug information database for patients have proved useful and been shown to meet the purpose for which they were designed and its cost is less than the alternatives.
- Feedback from other users will be helpful in incorporating improvements. Software development has continued with the goal of making the program available for use by other pharmacies and physicians' offices.

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Dear Ms Lacasa,

We are pleased to inform you that your abstract "Drug information for patients. A new software program and database" has been accepted for presentation as a poster at the 7h Congress of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists, which will take place at the Hofburg Congress Centre in Vienna from 20-22 March 2002.

You will receive full details on the set up and breakdown times, the times when the poster should be manned, confirmation of the category in which your poster will be displayed and your personal poster number as soon as possible.

Please find attached guidelines for the preparation of posters, which we ask you to follow carefully.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me at one of the numbers mentioned below.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards,

Severine Milhau

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# Certificate of Attendance

I hereby certify that

CARMEN LACASA DIAZ

attended the 7th Congress of the
European Association of Hospital Pharmacists
held in Vienna, Austria, from 20-22 March 2002

EAHP has determined that attendance at the Congress
entitles the participant to a credit equivalent of
10 hrs. of continuing post-graduate education.

Prof. P. Rambourg
President of the Congress
and EAHP