Medication poisoning is an important source of activity in emergency and intensive care departments and in Poison Control Centres around the world [1-2-3]. In Morocco, the epidemiological studies about medication poisonings are rare while the consumption of drugs in our country is increasing. The aim of our study was to describe the epidemiological features of human medication poisoning identified by the Moroccan Poison Control Centre (CAPM) between 1980 and 2009, and to analyze risk factors for this phenomenon.

OBJECTIF

Medication poisoning in Morocco: Retrospective study from 1980 to 2009

We conducted a retrospective study including all cases of medication poisoning reported to CAPM from 1 January 1980 to 31 December 2009. Adverse effects and poisonings in the fetus and the newborn of an intoxicated mother were excluded from this study. The statistical analysis was based on tests of association. The classifications used were INTOX for age, Poisoning Severity Score (PSS) and Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) for drugs [4-5-6].

METHODES

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

Medication poisoning remains underestimated but is common in our country. Despite its benign outcome compared to pesticides and plants (8.9), it remain an important activity in emergency departments. Two axes must be the target in the prevention of medication poisoning: Education of the population and training and information of health care professionals.

REFERENCES


Figure 1: Annual medication poisonings distribution from 1980 to 2009

Figure 2: Distribution of patients by area and department

Table 2: Most important drug families in medication poisoning cases

Figure 3: Distribution of patients by their age, sex and mode of poisoning

Figure 4: Distribution of patients by their age, sex and mode of poisoning

Figure 5, tables 3, 4: Distribution of patient by severity (PSS) and risk factors of death of medication poisoning