AVAILABILITY OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES FOR PAIN RELIEF AND PALLIATIVE CARE

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INTRODUCTION

- Opioids are used to treat moderate and severe chronic pain. They are also used in terminally ill patients with a limited life prognosis.

- 20,000 patients require treatment with controlled substances per year.

- 62% deficit of medicinal morphine for palliative care.

- In our country the supply and access to these drugs is restricted and insufficient.

PRESCRIPTION OF OPIOIDS ANALGESICS

- Until 10 years ago, Mexico consumed approximately 4 mg of morphine per capita. Latin America uses around 12 mgs per capita.

- According to the Federal Commission for the Protection of Sanitary Risks, there is an increase in the number of prescriptions issued by doctors in the last 6 years.

- In 2016, 44,000 opioid drug prescriptions were used.

- Shortage of drugs for pain.

PRESCRIPTION OF OPIOIDS ANALGESICS

- Doctors who are trained and authorized to prescribe controlled medications for pain management are insufficient.
- In the capital, 20% of the pharmacies that have permits supply controlled drugs.
- 9 of 57 hospitals comply with the established standards for palliative care.
- Tramadol and buprenorphine are the most prescribed drugs.
- In the recent decade, morphine production increased just a 30 percent.

CREATION OF THE THERAPEUTIC GROUP OF PALLIATIVE CARE

- Approval of the creation of the therapeutic group of palliative care, as well as the origin of the update of the National Compendium of Health Supplies.

- It includes opioids and other drugs such as Antidepressants, Neuroleptics and Benzodiazepines.

- The distribution is not sufficient in all states.
CANNABINOIDS

- Cannabinoids are approved in some countries for analgesia, control of vomiting (induced by chemotherapy) and improvement of appetite.
- In theory, this year Mexico would already have regulations to allow the use of marijuana for medical purposes, since it prevents free access to health.
- Full regulation continues to be unwelcome by the majority of Mexicans, as revealed by the Belisario Dominguez Institute.

Suprema Corte de Justicia de la Nación. No. 115/2019, Ciudad de México, a 14 de agosto de 2019
CONCLUSIONS

- There is a lack of more equipment and infrastructure in the Palliative Care services.
- Health personnel, patients, and their families must be trained in the administration of opioid analgesics and cannabis at different levels of medical care.
- There are cultural and social barriers, an example is the really popular Opiophobia.
- Mechanisms are urgently required to establish a public policy that allows better access to this type of drug for analgesic purposes and to adequately control the effects generated by overdose.
- Lack of pharmaceutical presentations of opioids for pediatric populations.

https://www.foroconsultivo.org.mx/INCyTU/documentos/expres/IE020-Opioides%20analg%c3%a9icos.pdf