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Determinantes, barreiras e facilitadores da utilização de medicamentos biossimilares nos hospitais públicos em Portugal

PERCEPTIONS OF BIOSIMILARS AMONG CLINICAL DECISION MAKERS – STUDY 2

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DATA

- » Survey to all CFT and pharmaceutical services directors of all public Portuguese hospitals, June-July 2021
- » 50 answers out of 93 participants (53.7%).

Higher participation among pharmacists (64% vs 43% among physicians)

Occupation

- Physicians
- Pharmacists

CFT experience

- Over 10 years vs bellow

Number of requests to CFT (previous 6 months)

- Over 20 vs bellow

DATA

- » **Distribution:** majority older than 45 (78%), women (61%), 51% with more than 20 years of professional experience, but 49% with less than 10 year experience at CFT
- » 56% report at least one CFT meeting per month, but 10% less than once a month

KEY FINDINGS

- » Low communication between CFT and CA (68%), and between CFT and hospital service directors (47% previous 6 months)
- » **Key aspects for biosimilars approval:** health economics studies (93%), price (**91%**), CNFT recommendations (**89%**) and clinical trials (**82%**)
- » 83% considered to have enough information concerning biosimilars



- » More information is requested from:
 - Independent publications (89%)
 - Ministry of Health (INFARMED, CNFT) (83%)
 - Clinical societies (68%)
 - Pharmaceutical industry (23%)

KEY FINDINGS

- » There is still **no full agreement** about the identical efficacy and safety of biosimilars (90% have doubts), and there is a perception of patients' non preference of biosimilars or doubts (91%, 77%).
- » This lack of agreement is more present among physicians and low-experienced respondents, compared to experienced respondents and pharmacists.
- » Those experienced (vs low-experienced)
 - consult more information sources (73% vs 56%)
 - higher concordance on similarity (73% vs 41%)
 - higher full agreement on equal safety (81% vs 39%)
 - higher full agreement on release of funds (52% vs 30%)
 - less tendency to consider interchangeability and extrapolation as obstacles (65% vs 48%)

KEY FINDINGS

- » **Biosimilar adoption:** high importance of therapeutic switch norms (98%) and workshops and training (85%) by the Ministry of Health
- » By contrast, quotas and incentives are not considered as relevant (43%) , and automatic substitution by the pharmacist (47%) is rejected by physicians and low-experienced people
- » Those who are more comfortable with biosimilars safety and efficacy:
 - **pharmacists** vs physicians (73% vs 35%)
 - **experienced** vs low-experienced (81% vs 39%)

IMPLICATIONS

- » Less experienced people and physicians: **focus for educational activities**
- » Reinforce the role of the **Ministry of Health, CNFT, DGS and independent studies**

Thank you!



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