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ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM

Emanuella Ribeiro Paes Do Nascimento
Medicine University: Nova Esperança-FAMENE
João pessoa-PB
https://lattes.cnpq.br/2586092469539237

Déborah Maria Coutinho Alves
Medicine University: Nova Esperança-FAMENE
João pessoa-PB
http://lattes.cnpq.br/4176182121254439

Gillyanna Karla Santana de Oliveira
Medicine University: Nova Esperança-FAMENE
João pessoa-PB
http://lattes.cnpq.br/2666637106267743

Elaine Andrielly Monteiro da Silva
Medicine University: Nova Esperança-FAMENE
João pessoa-PB
https://lattes.cnpq.br/9697857184471101

Maria Camilla Fernandes Borges
Medicine University: Centro Universitário João Pessoa
João pessoa-PB
http://lattes.cnpq.br/3528614711361491

Hohanna Sabryna dos Santos Sousa Carvalho
Medicine University: Nova Esperança-FAMENE
João pessoa-PB
http://lattes.cnpq.br/1619826815704099

Maria Clara Formiga de Mello
Medicine of: '"Centro Universitário Facisa"
João Pessoa-PB
http://lattes.cnpq.br/8609145957847252

Ideltônio José Feitosa Barbosa
Advising professor at the Faculty of Medicine: Nova Esperança
João Pessoa-PB
http://lattes.cnpq.br/4277823601495604

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INTRODUCTION

Antimicrobials are substances that have the ability to inhibit the growth of microorganisms. In Brazil, these compounds have been widely used inappropriately, either by non-clinically indicated prescription, due to lack of confidence in the diagnosis. In view of this, around 700,000 deaths are estimated to result from infections caused by multidrug-resistant microorganisms. In this sense, its inconsequential consumption led to the resistance of microorganisms to drugs, resulting in a global health problem.

GOAL

Demonstrate the reasons why antimicrobial resistance is considered a public health problem.

METHODOLOGY

This is an integrative literature review on the Medline (via Pubmed) and SciELO databases. The research was based on the search strategy by descriptors (DECS AND MESH) and free terms: "Resistance", "Antimicrobial" and "SUS", with the aid of the Boolean operator and the filter for articles between 2018 and 2022 and in the language Portuguese. Based on the searches, 884 articles were found, of which 627 were excluded for not being from the desired period. In addition, 5 were excluded for having duplicate titles and 10 for being inadequate to the thematic proposal or the objective of the study, resulting in 6 articles used to compose the review.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Antimicrobial agents can be understood as natural or synthetic compounds capable of selectively inhibiting the growth or causing the death of microorganisms, these are

classified according to their action in small and broad spectrum, having characteristics such as growth inhibition or ability to kill the pathogen. With this, the intrinsic resistance guarantees the microorganism to resist the action of a given medicine. Thus, due to the high demand of patients, the great use of antimicrobials in Primary Health Care is notorious, increasing costs and resistance, and they have measures that must be followed in order to combat drug resistance, and it is up to the physician to educate the patient about the correct use of the medication, guiding the correct amount of antibiotic, treatment time and consequences.

CONCLUSION

It was noticed that antimicrobials are notable in the patient's life, and their irrational use contributes substantially to antimicrobial resistance. It is essential to understand that its use must be done with caution. Therefore, it is necessary to encourage the implementation of a regular distribution of antimicrobials or the creation of a specific protocol, in order to reduce interventions and unnecessary drug prescriptions.

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