

Risk analysis of non-sterile preparation activity and impact of computerization on the preparation circuit

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Context

The non-sterile compounding cycle relies on several tools: faxes, emails, prescription software, Excel® and Word® files. This insecure system is a source of error in the production of pharmaceutical preparations. The aim is to carry out a risk analysis of the circuit and to assess the contribution of a software package to the management of non-sterile preparations.

Materials and methods

What type of analysis? FMEA: Failure Mode, Effect and Criticality Analysis

What scope? All processes involved in the supply chain: demand analysis, inventory management, preparation, dispensing, control and support processes (management, HR, hygiene, safety and equipment).

What steps are involved?

- 1) Risk identification: Non-conformity queries, observations, bibliography, previous risk analyses, etc.
- 2) Risk assessment: Gross Criticality (GC) and Net Criticality (NC) via an in-service survey.



3) Comparison to a criticality scale

Score	Criticality	Risk
1 to 4	C1	Acceptable as is
6 to 16	C2	To be monitored
24 to 288	C3	Priority treatment

Criteria	Quotation
Frequency	Exceptional (1) to Very Frequent (8)
Severity	Minor (1) à Critical (6)
Detectability	Always (1) to Impossible (6)
Risk management	Insufficient (1) to very good control (0,25)

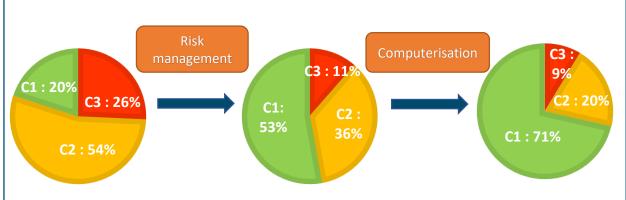
An example to make things clearer?

Risk identified: Forgetting to add a raw material to a preparation GC = 1 (F=exceptional) x 6 (S=critical) x 4 (D=difficult to detect) = 24 C3

With computerisation, modification of D and RM, NC = 1.5

Results

70 risks identified, of which 40% related to preparation and control processes



- Significant reduction in the criticality of risks with the control measures put in place, enhanced by the use of a single software package.
- Computerisation reduces the criticality of half of the risks identified.

Discussion

Although our system uses non-specific computerised tools, it is not sufficiently secure, with re-transcription being a source of error. The use of a single software package could significantly reduce these risks by automating processes and improving traceability. This would also help to ensure the safety of the medication cycle and the dematerialisation of our tools, in line with Good Preparation Practices.

