Introduction: In Portugal, the epidemiology of intoxications in children aged up to 18 years has not been comprehensively studied. Objectives: Herein, we intended to analyse the pattern of the paediatric intoxications presented to the Paediatric Emergency Department of a tertiary hospital located in the North of Portugal, to better understand the epidemiology of this problem in the region. Methods: This retrospective analysis included intoxicated patients under the age of 18, admitted in the Paediatrics Emergency of the Hospital Centre of São João, Porto (Portugal), between 2014 and 2018. Data regarding age, gender and origin of the patient, the toxic agent involved and the intent of intoxication, the date and time of the hospital admission, the treatment and clinical outcome were collected from the patients’ anonymized medical records. Results: A total of 786 (0.20%) visits due to intoxication from a total of 389,913 paediatric urgent admissions were recorded, during the study period. It was possible to verify that the main route of poison administration was by ingestion, and that most poisonings occurred in the age group 13–18. From the studied population, 48.4% were male, with no

Palavras-chave: verificação; morte; relevância; violenta; esperada

Referências:

POSTER 122
Acute poisoning in children and adolescents admitted to the pediatric emergency unit of the Hospital de São João (Porto, Portugal), 2014-2018

Marta Russo1*, Ricardo Jorge Dinis- Oliveira1,2,3,4, Rui Guimarães4, Diana Dias da Silva1,2,3
1 TOXRUN – Toxicology Research Unit, University Institute of Health Sciences, CESPU, CRL, 4585-116 Gandra, Portugal.
2 Associate Laboratory i4HB - Institute for Health and Bioeconomy, Department of Biological Sciences, Laboratory of Toxicology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto, 4050-313 Porto, Portugal.
3 UCIBIO/REQUIMTE, Department of Biological Sciences, Laboratory of Toxicology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto, 4050-313 Porto, Portugal.
4 Department of Public Health and Forensic Sciences, and Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, 4200-319 Porto, Portugal.
* martasrr18@gmail.com
Doi: https://doi.org/10.51126/revsales.v4iSup.389

Resumo
Introduction: In Portugal, the epidemiology of intoxications in children aged up to 18 years has not been comprehensively studied. Objectives: Herein, we intended to analyse the pattern of the paediatric intoxications presented to the Paediatric Emergency Department of a tertiary hospital located in the North of Portugal, to better understand the epidemiology of this problem in the region. Methods: This retrospective analysis included intoxicated patients under the age of 18, admitted in the Paediatrics Emergency of the Hospital Centre of São João, Porto (Portugal), between 2014 and 2018. Data regarding age, gender and origin of the patient, the toxic agent involved and the intent of intoxication, the date and time of the hospital admission, the treatment and clinical outcome were collected from the patients' anonymized medical records. Results: A total of 786 (0.20%) visits due to intoxication from a total of 389,913 paediatric urgent admissions were recorded, during the study period. It was possible to verify that the main route of poison administration was by ingestion, and that most poisonings occurred in the age group 13–18. From the studied population, 48.4% were male, with no
significant gender differences being also observed in the pattern of intoxication caused by different causal agents. Intoxication by ethanol (41.7%) and pharmaceuticals (36.9%) leaded the causes of intoxication, followed by household products (9.2%) and illicit drugs (1.4%). Intoxication by pesticides represented less than 1.0% of the cases. While 31.0% of intoxications with household products were reported for children aging up to 2, 63.0% of ethanol intoxications occurred in adolescents (13-18 years old). Intoxications with pharmaceuticals also peaked in these two age groups, related to toddler exploratory self-accidental ingestions and to attempts of suicide, respectively. The most common pharmaceuticals were those acting on the central nervous system. No fatalities were reported during emergency care, but 1.1% of the patients were hospitalised with unknown prognostic. Records have shown that there is a higher incidence of poisonings at weekend. **Conclusions:** Preventive measures regarding abuse of ethanol and illegal drugs should be strengthened among adolescents, in the North of Portugal. Community awareness to eliminate risks related to toddler exploratory ingestions of pharmaceuticals and domestic products in the household environment should also be reinforced.

**Keywords:** intoxication; paediatrics; epidemiology; ethanol; pharmaceuticals.

**POSTER 123**

**Characterisation of pet-related crimes in the judicial district of Setúbal since 2014: factors conditioning the applicability of the law 69/2014**

Catarina Cardoso1,2*, Diana Dias da Silva1,3, Vera Duarte1,3, Áurea Madureira-Carvalho1,6

1 TOXRUN – Toxicology Research Unit, University Institute of Health Sciences, CESPU, CRL, 4585-116 Gandra, Portugal.
2 ISMAI, University of Maia, Av. Carlos de Oliveira Campos, 4475-690 Maia, Portugal.
3 UCIBIO-REQUIMTE, Laboratory of Toxicology, Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto, 4050-313 Porto, Portugal.
4 Associated Laboratory i4HB – Institute for Health and Bioeconomy, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto, 4050-313 Porto, Portugal.
5 CICS.NOVA, Interdisciplinary Centre of Social Sciences, University of Minho, Rua da Universidade, 4710-057 Braga, Portugal.
6 LAQV/REQUIMTE, Laboratory of Pharmacognosy, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto, Rua de Jorge Viterbo Ferreira, 228, 4050-313 Porto, Portugal.

* catarina_cardoso_13@hotmail.com

**Resumo**

**Introduction:** In Portugal, it was in 2014 that crimes of abuse and abandonment of pets were typified, through the Criminal Law nº 69/2014 (articles 387ª and 388ª) [1]. Despite the evolution that has occurred over the last few years, it is still possible to identify significant gaps that may hamper the application of the Law [2]. **Objectives:** The present study aimed to characterise and understand the crimes of abuse and abandonment of pets, in the District of Setúbal, through a retrospective analysis of almost 6 years (October 2014-May 2020), to identify the system's strengths and weaknesses and the necessary improvements. **Methods:** 39 (10%) dismissed cases were analysed and semi-structured interviews were applied to 7 professionals with functions related to the protection of pets, including elements of the Public Prosecutor's Office, elements of the Criminal Police Body, and professionals from Animal Protection Associations. **Results:** Our results evidenced that Setúbal presents crimes against pets dispersed throughout the district, with the crime of pet abuse being dominant. In general, it was possible to identify several opportunities of improvement, including the urge to: i) reformulate the Law, clarifying the concepts of pet and pet abuse; ii) train the population to correctly identify crimes of abuse and abandonment, reducing the number of false accusations that unnecessarily mobilise scarce useful resources; iii) increase human and material resources and consequently the means of proof; iv) correctly assign the status of witness in the dismissed cases, distinguishing it from the denouncer when applicable; v) better train police forces and experts to provide better maintenance of the chain of custody; vi) identify the reasons that lead to the practice of these crimes, allowing prevention of recurrences and/or practice of other related crimes; and vii) sensitize the Public Prosecutor to the importance of meticulously filling the dismissed cases with all available information. **Conclusions:** The application of the suggested improvements will certainly make it possible to fill gaps that are still felt at the local and eventually national levels, contributing to a better and more effective application of the Law.

**Keywords:** abandonment; criminalisation; legislation; abuse; court.