Introduction: In United States more than 7,000 patients die per year due to medication errors. These errors include dose committed by nurses.

Objective: To identify medication errors reported by Portuguese nurses

Methodology: A descriptive, mixed qualitative and quantitative study. The respondents were a random sample from the hospitals of the central region of Portugal. In this study was analyzed the first item of the questionnaire “Inappropriate nursing decisions and actions”

Suggestions: The “Safe Administration of Medication” is the most relevant category that emerged from the reported errors. Education is relevant for nurses to introduce preventive measures. An active teaching methodology such as Problem Based Learning allows reflection on errors that were highlighted by the study. Using this methodology it’s important to focus on a problem situation and try to solve it by using best practice. The use of simulation is relevant for learning from errors. With this practice it will help professionals to prevent medication errors and therefore increases quality and patient safety.

References: