

Title: Identification and Assessment of Prescription Errors in a Tertiary Hospital in South-East, Nigeria.

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Background

Failure in therapeutic goals has been linked to prescription errors in healthcare settings. Two types of prescription errors occur: error of commission and error of omission either related to the prescriber or related to the medication.

Aim

To identify, classify & assess prescription errors in three units of a Federal University Teaching Hospital

Methods

A retrospective screening of prescriptions from patients' case folders in 3 units of a tertiary hospital in Abakaliki. Convenience sampling technique was used to select prescriptions for the study period. Data was entered into SPSS version 23.0 and descriptive analysis was done.

Results

Table 1: Prescribing errors identified by hospital units

Type of prescription errors	Ophthalmology n%	GOPD n %	NHIA n %	Total n %
Errors of Omission related to the Prescriber				
Errors of Omission related to Medication	73 (8.7)	44 (5.2)	88 (10.5)	205 (24.4)
Errors of Commission	19 (2.3)	197 (23.5)	254 (30.2)	470 (56)
Total errors per unit	147 (17.5)	264 (31.4)	429 (51.1)	840 (100)

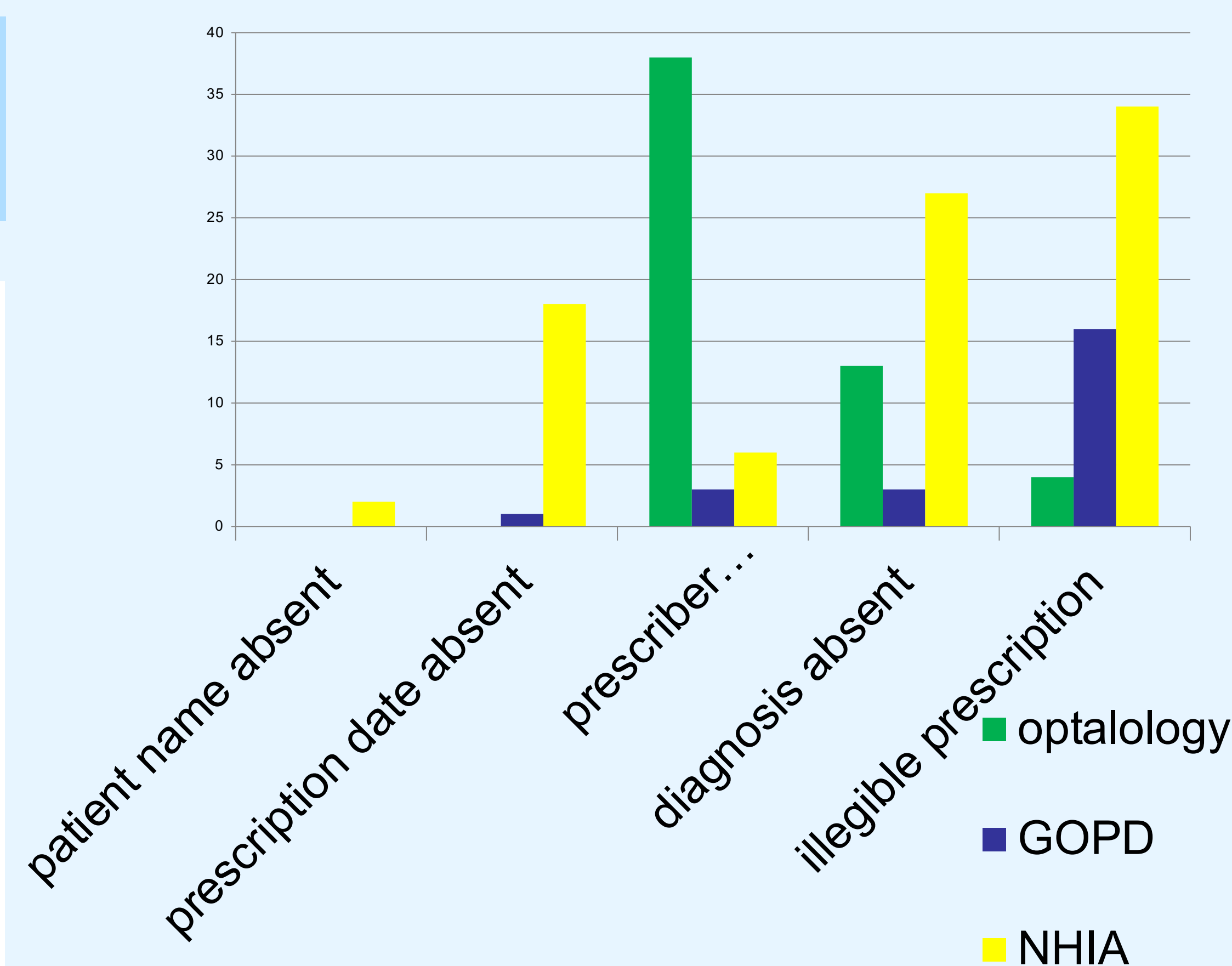


Figure 1: Errors of omission related to prescriber

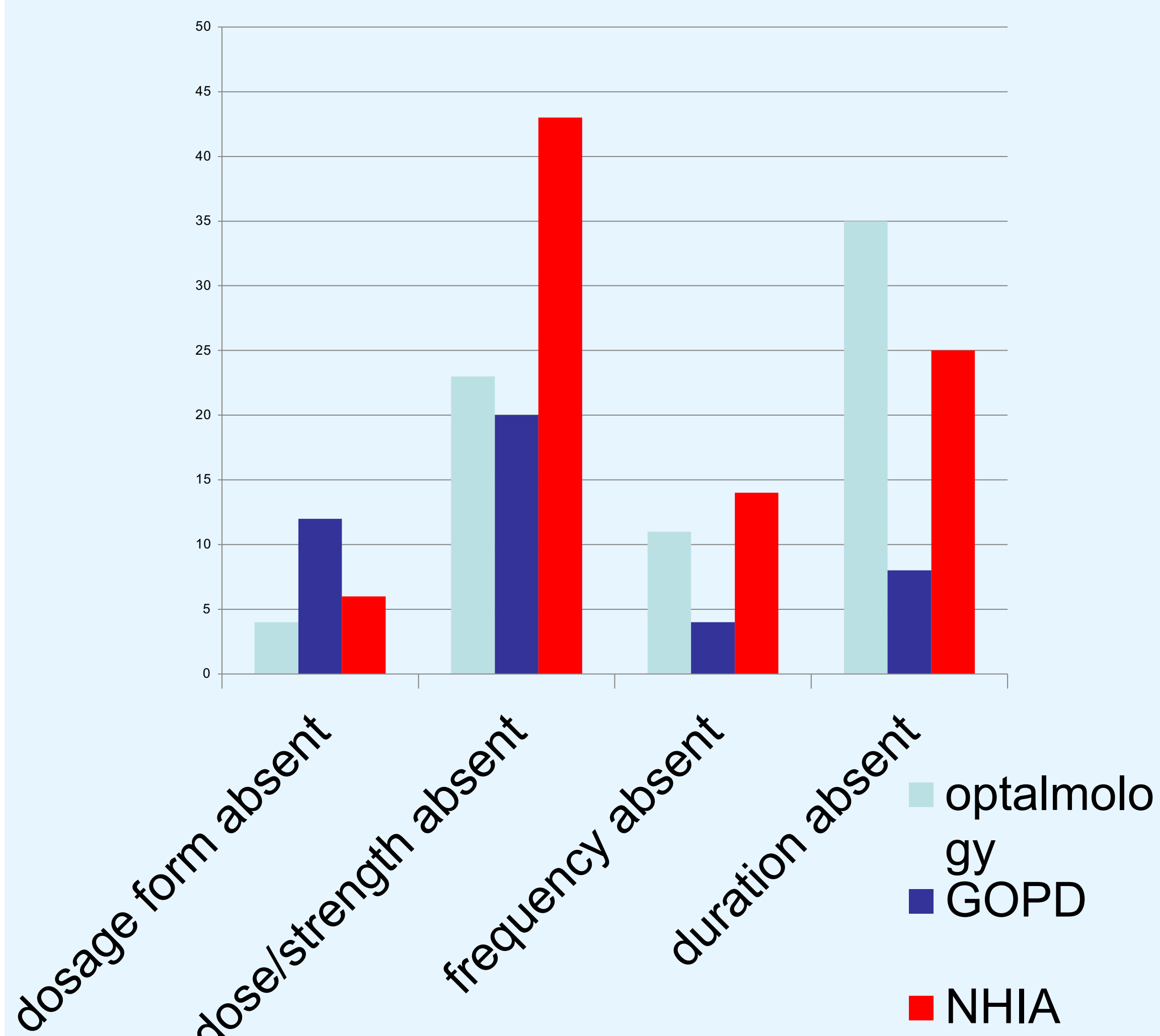


Figure 2: Errors of omission related to medication

More Results

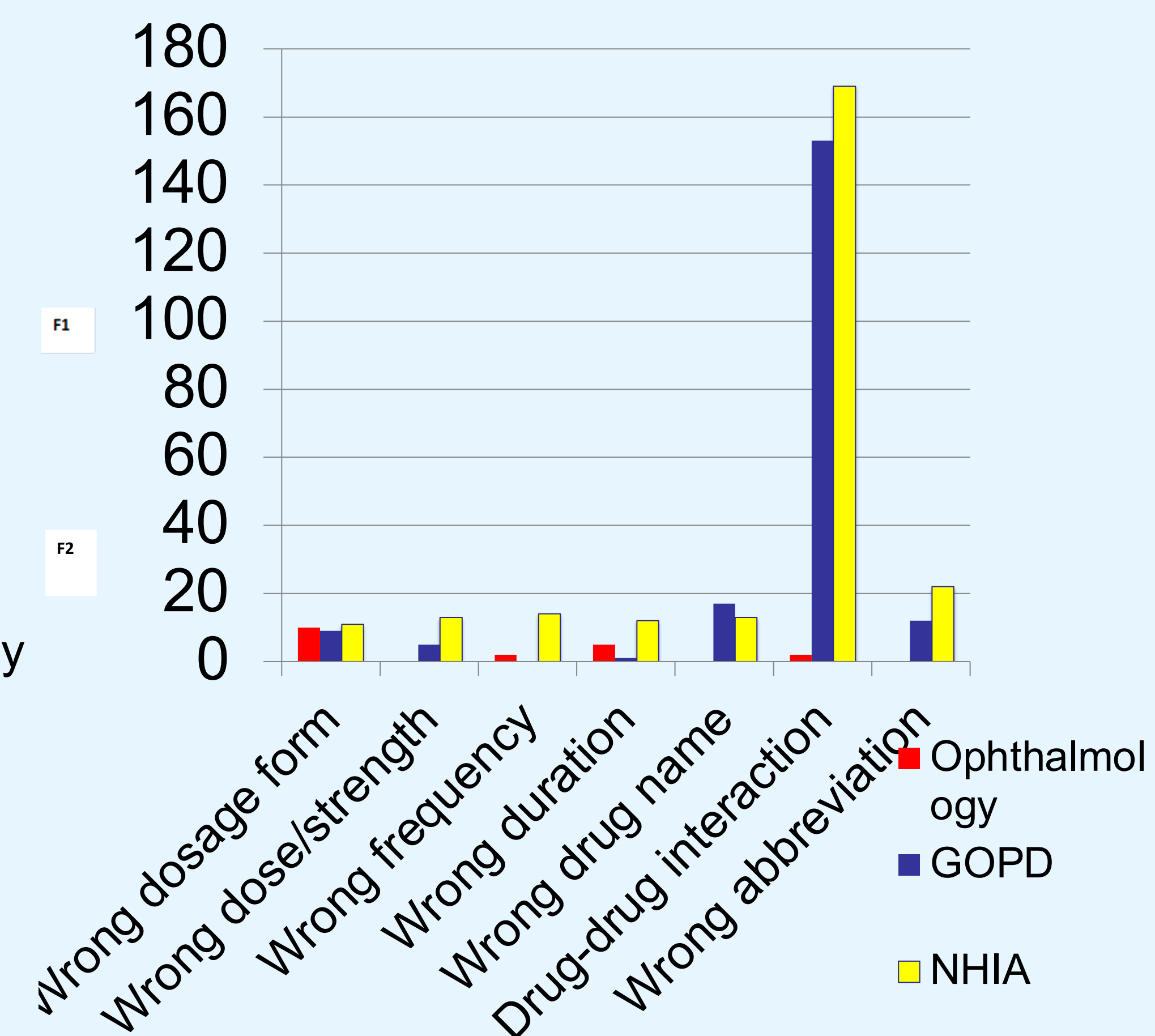


Figure 3: Errors of commission

Conclusion

This study showed presence of high prescribing errors. There is need for an intervention in the study setting to reduce prescription errors and improve the achievement of therapeutic goals.

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