

Prologue



By Carlos Chiale MD, of ANMAT



The implementation of a traceability system it is based in a definite and conscious decision, built on the conviction that it is essential to care for the health of the population.

The products incorporated to a traceable system provide a different kind of security, where the quality of the product is controlled and handled among terms established by the regulations in force in each particular case. Thus, it is guaranteed that the product distribution chain develops the necessary steps to achieve the final objective, which is to reach the community with a controlled product during all its process, from the manufacture to its purchase by the patient. Therefore, there is an automatic quality control of the products, their manufacture, distribution and sale, at the same time, important obstacles are raised against the emergence of illegitimate products.

The Argentine experience is a clear indicator of the benefits that offers the implementation of this type of systems. The concern about the quality of drugs is as old as the drugs themselves. The dangers of adulterated products were registered in writings that date back. On the First Century, the Greek doctor Dioscórides identified the existence of adulterations of products and recommended working in its detection. In 1997, Argentina began the implementation of a surveillance model oriented exclusively to the detection and verification of illegitimate drugs in the market. Therefore, the work strategy developed

was based in the surveillance of the different steps of the drugs' distribution chain.

The development of new technologies and the possibilities they offer in addition to the progress of science, have allowed achievements that years ago were unthinkable. Therefore, since the implementation of the National Drug Traceability System at the end of 2011, the traceability of drugs in Argentina has been the subject of a wide and productive development. Its implementation defined an important paradigm change for the market and especially, for the surveillance of the distribution of drugs at a federal level.

The interaction with the system increases exponentially and speaks of the commitment of the different actors in all the national territory in compliance with the sanitary regulation and the adherence to public policies in the subject of drugs.

The results the system provides confirms that we are on a good track, it must be continued and even projected and expanded to other products.

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