



# Encouraging Transverse Competences in the New Undergraduate degree in pharmacy: Critical News Analysis as a Tool in Teaching Pharmacology

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The group responsible for Pedagogical Innovation in the teaching of Pharmacology at the University of Valencia has designed a new support the selection made by teachers. The most experience based on the follow-up of news of popular topic, clearly, has been the anti-obesity informative press and / or specialized in topics of treatments (Figure 2). As expected, they believe that active learning is very demanding, as they have seen that are capable of dealing with real problems and not merely academic. Therefore, the majority of respondents are very positive increasing active student participation and improving the relationship between students and student-teacher.

## METHODOLOGY:

### Problem Based Learning News selected (Problems)

- New perspectives of the treatments with anticoagulants and its diffusion in different mass media.

- **Dronedronone: a new effective anti-arrhythmic drug?** (Figures 1 and 3)

- Critical Analysis of news related to the Pharmacology of the Obesity, and

- Withdrawal of rosiglitazone.

**Number of students:** 16 in groups of 4.

**Method:** At the beginning of the course, the students choose news. In the activity of Seminar (1 h), the responsible students show the results by oral exposition (30-40 min) of the *problem*, the courses in Pharmacy have enjoyed the most follow-up of the news and, finally the conclusions to which they have come after. Defence and debate with the rest of students and tutor (20-30 min).

**CONCLUSION:** Besides learning Pharmacology, the students have increased the confidence in themselves. They need to know how to use information sources, determine the quality and reliability of them, and to encourage critical and scientific spirit and use appropriate language and adapted depending on the audience.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Regarding the topics covered, the results the selection made by teachers. The most experience based on the follow-up of news of popular topic, clearly, has been the anti-obesity informative press and / or specialized in topics of treatments (Figure 2). As expected, they believe that active learning is very demanding, as they have seen that are capable of dealing with real problems and not merely academic. Therefore, the majority of respondents are very positive increasing active student participation and improving the relationship between students and student-teacher.

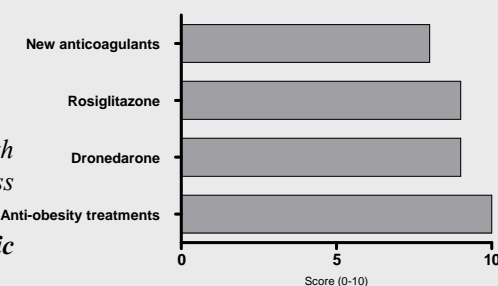
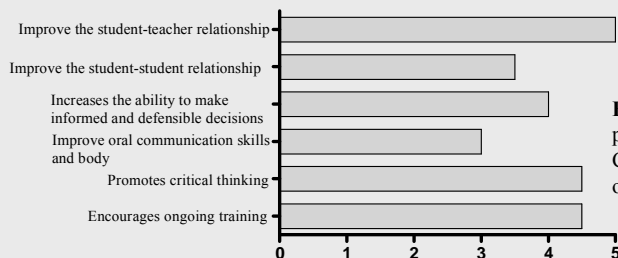


Figure 2. Valuation of topics (0-10) by students (n=30)

No doubt a good stimulus always gives positive results. The participating students were encouraged to present these works to the First Congress of Students of Pharmacy, celebrated in Valencia. In this way students from other degree recent data of some commercial drugs (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Valuation of learning method (0-5) by students (n=30)



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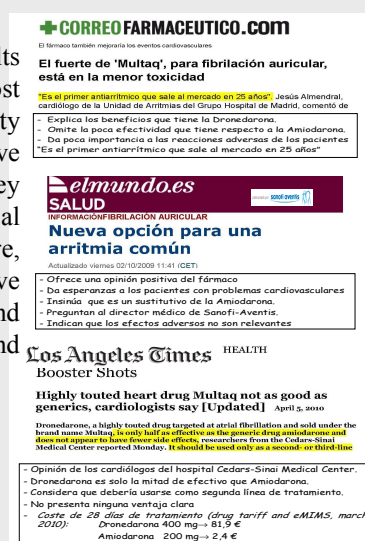


Figure 1. News about Dronedronone in digital press: El Mundo, Correo Farmacéutico.com, Los Angeles Times

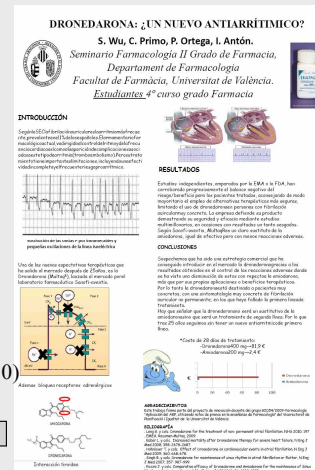


Figure 3. Poster derived from the project presented at the First Congress of Students of Pharmacy of Valencia.