

healthcare network and ensures that GH prescriptions comply with the national guidelines and other parameters determined by clinicians. The cooperation among all professionals guarantees a unique shared pathway supporting the global patient care. All clinical data such as history, prescriptions, follow-up data and drugs supply have been collected and put “on line” through the information system.

GHR has been used since July 2014 and to date the database contains data about 377 pediatric patients and 262 adults, 17% of which suffer from a rare disease and 83% from other pathologies. Previously, in Veneto Region, there were about 900 patients treated with GH. Not even a year since the GHR activation, thanks to inappropriate prescriptions cutting, this number is reduced by 29%, and GH is appropriately provided to every patient who actually needs this therapy.

GHR proves that cost avoidance is possible, while ensuring patients' health as well.

Key messages

- GH Registry is a web-based information system that, implementing national guidelines, guarantees GH therapy to every eligible patient in the appropriate dosage, allowing cost avoidance as well
- GH Registry proves that the cooperation among every different healthcare network professional ensures a sustainable health expenditure in the long-term by monitoring prescription appropriateness

Growth Hormone Veneto Region Registry for surveillance and therapy monitoring since 2013

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Growth Hormone (GH) is a peptide hormone that stimulates growth, cell reproduction and regeneration. It is available as high cost drug used to treat children's growth disorders, adult GH deficiency and some rare diseases. Sometimes it is also used for athletic enhancement and prescribed for inappropriate usage. Because of its high potential risk and the high cost of therapy, it is essential to regulate as strictly as possible the use of this drug. In Public Health perspective it is fundamental to ensure prescription appropriateness by selecting patients, dosage and treatment duration. Furthermore, it is also necessary to implement ways to control and maintain sustainable health expenditure in the long-term.

In Italy, where GH therapy is provided for free to patients by the National Health Service, there is no prescription appropriateness monitoring. For this reason, in Veneto Region, it has been planned the GH Registry (GHR), a web-based information system which supports all the activities of the GH