tients with BC and B/BMM, which poses a significant burden in term of both cost and mortality.

**PHS54**

**INEQUALITIES AND AVOIDABLE COSTS OF IMAGING TEST IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MONITORING OF PATIENTS WITH STROKE IN THE CANARY ISLANDS**

Valderrón-Nazco C1, Castilla-Rodríguez I2, Ramos-gotl J3, Serrano-aguilera P3

1FUNCIS, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain; 2Cuerpo de Epidemiología y Salud Pública (CIBERESP), Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Tenerife, Spain; 3Canary Islands Health Service, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain

**OBJECTIVES:** To determine the variations and inequalities in accessing to diagnostic imaging tests in patients with stroke. Other objectives are to determine the degree of adequate use of imaging and the subsequent avoidable costs at hospitals in the Canary Islands. **METHODS:** Data on patients with a diagnosis of stroke were extracted from hospital databases during the period 2005-2010. Trends in the use of diagnostic imaging for stroke diagnosis and management over the 5 years were analyzed. Inequalities in access to imaging tests were analyzed by using logistic regression models. The information was classified according to their scientific evidence in “adequate” or “inadequate”. Whenever imaging tests were classified as “inadequate”, avoidable costs were calculated. **RESULTS:** A higher Charlson comorbidity index and younger age increase the chance of receiving an MRI in patients with stroke. In addition, results show a slight increment in the use of MRI in recent years at four referral hospitals in the Canary Islands. We obtained a total avoidable cost of 0.27%. **CONCLUSIONS:** Although the variations found in the use of both tests are remarkable, only 0.3% of the total expenditure attributed to neuroimaging in patients with stroke could be avoided in a conservative scenario.

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**PHS55**

**EVALUATION OF TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM (IThACA): INNOVATION IN THE TREATMENT OF ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION INCREASE THE COMPLIANCE AND ADHERENCE**

Serras-mainar A1, Ibáñez J1, Frias X2, Bultó C1, Costa A1, Majos N2, Lahoz R2

1Badalona Servei Asistencial, Badalona, Barcelona, Spain; 2Novartis Farmacèutica, Barcelona, Spain

**OBJECTIVES:** To evaluate effectiveness of an interventional strategy (disease management program (DMP)) supported by a telemedicine platform in patients with mild/moderate hypertension. **METHODS:** Quasi-experimental design, paired data with control group (1,2 patients were matched by age and gender). Study population consisted of 1,104 women who utilized Betty Puskar Breast Care Center at Badalona-Barcelona (Badalona-Barcelona) were followed-up during 2011. Study groups: intervention group (telemmedicine program) and control group (usual clinical practice). The intervention consisted on establishing a permanent channel of interaction with the patient (telemmedicine platform) and providing the patient with educational materials, clinical monitoring, SMS, phone calls, etc. Main measures: Demographic, co-morbidity, anthropometric and biochemical parameters, adherence to treatment, blood pressure control (BP: 140/90 mmHg), associated health care management costs and satisfaction surveys to professionals and patients. Statistical significance p<0.05.

**RESULTS:** A total of 750 patients were included (intervention group n=250, control group n=500). Mean age was of 64.2 years old 52.1% of patients were women. The control group was selected to show an optimal comparability in terms of demographic and morbidity measures between the two groups. The intervention group showed better compliance (87.9% vs. 71.4%, p=0.001). BP control was 52.5 vs. 53.1% (p=NS) initially and 63.2% vs. 55.6% at the end of the study (p=0.001) for the intervention group vs. control, respectively. The follow-up average cost per patient and year was 177 € for the control group and 177 € for the intervention group. **CONCLUSIONS:** The DMP has improved adherence to treatment and BP control and has reduced health care management costs. If the study results were extrapolated to the overall population of Badalona, a potential saving of 1.7 million per year would be achieved.

**PHS57**

**COMPARING PREDICTORS OF SELF-REPORTED ADHERENCE TO MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING GUIDELINES IN APPALACHIAN WOMEN WHO UTILIZE MOBILE AND STATIONARY FACILITIES**

Vyas A, Mathewan S

West Virginia University School of Pharmacy, Morgantown, WV, USA

**OBJECTIVES:** To compare the characteristics of Appalachian women age 40 years and older who utilized a mobile mammography unit to get a mammogram with those of a stationary screening unit, and to compare the predictors of self-reported adherence in these samples. **METHODS:** Data from 1,161 women who participated in the Bonnie Wells Wilson Mobile Mammography Program and 1,104 women who utilized Betty Puskar Breast Care Center at least once in the past 5 years and completed a six-page Mammography Program and Preventive Care Survey were analyzed using the Andersen Behavioral Model to determine the predictors of self-reported adherence to mammography screening guidelines in these samples. **RESULTS:** A total of 48.2% of women who utilized the mobile unit and 92.3% of women who utilized the stationary facility reported having had a mammogram in the past two years consistent with current mammography screening guidelines. Women who utilized the stationary facility had greater proportion of women with higher levels of education, higher income, health insurance, and following preventive behaviors such as clinical breast exam (CBE), Pap test, and other screenings as compared to those who utilized the mobile unit. In women who utilized the mobile unit, older age, being unemployed, being obese, having a family history of BC, having had breast biopsy in the past and having had a Pap test were significant predictors of self-reported adherence. In women who utilized a stationary facility, being overweight, having health insurance, being a adherent to CBE and Pap test, and having positive views about mammography screening were the significant predictors of self-reported adherence.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Women who utilized mobile unit had substantially lower adherence to mammography screening as compared to those who utilized stationary unit. Personal and/or community-based educational interventions need to be developed around mobile mammography unit to increase mammography adherence in poor and underserved women.

**PHS58**

**CHANGE IN HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE AFTER OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY IN COMMUNITY-DWELLING DEPENDENT ELDERLY: A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL**

Noto S1, Uemura T2, Moriwaki K

1University of Health and Welfare, Niigata, Japan, 2Tokyo University, Mita-cho, Japan

**OBJECTIVES:** To assess the change of related-healthy quality of life as an effect of occupational therapy in community-dwelling dependent elderly. **METHODS:** In a randomized control trial (RCT) we compared the effectiveness of occupational therapy in community-dwelling dependent elderly. A total of 230 participants aged 65-95 were randomly assigned to either an occupational therapy group that performed exercises according to their meaningful activities or usual exercise group. The intervention program was a 1h session two or three times per week. We evaluated all participants on activity of daily living (Barthel index) and health-related quality of life (Health Assessment Questionnaire (HAQ), SF-12, SF-36). Measurements were performed at baseline and after one month. **RESULTS:** Using linear mixed models, the occupational therapy group improved their mean HAQ score at one month from baseline (P<0.001) (the occupational therapy group: 0.09±0.18; the usual exercise group: 0.00±0.31). There was a significant group-by-time interaction (P<0.001) with the occupational therapy group showing a greater improvement than the usual exercise group. However there was not a significant group-by-time interaction (P=0.051) by HAQ scores. **CONCLUSIONS:** Occupational therapy had beneficial effects on health-related quality of life in community-dwelling dependent elderly. The greatest effects were achieved through inclusion of a client-centered meaningful activity program.

**PHS59**

**DEMOGRAPHICS AND HEALTH-STATE UTILITIES OF IRISH PATIENTS WITH HEPATITIS C INFECTION: USE OF THE 5-LEVEL EQ-5D QUESTIONNAIRE**

Kieran J1, Mushtaq H2, Bergin C3, Norris S3, Barry M3

1Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, 2St James Hospital, Dublin, Ireland, 3St James’s Hospital, Dublin, Ireland

**OBJECTIVES:** Hepatitis C (HCV) is a major public health problem which is estimated to affect up to 30,000 people in the Republic of Ireland. There is little information regarding demographics or health-state utilities in this population in Ireland. We aimed to establish demographics and health-state utilities among patients with chronic HCV and differing degrees of liver disease. **METHODS:** A convenience sample of 250 patients with a diagnosis of chronic HCV and differing degrees of liver disease were recruited. Informed consent was obtained from all patients recruited and the study was approved by the institutional ethics review board. Information was collected on demographic and clinical parameters and patients were asked to complete the 5-level EQ-5D health-related quality of life (HRQL) questionnaire. Continuous variables were summarized with medians and standard deviations and compared using Students t-test. Categorical variables were summarized with proportions. P-values <0.05 were taken to indicate significance and (HCV) were made. 143 (57%) of the health care professionals and 91% of patients were satisfied with the DMP.

**CONCLUSIONS:** The DMP has improved adherence to treatment and BP control and has reduced health care management costs. If the study results were extrapolated to the overall population of Badalona, a potential saving of 1.7 million per year would be achieved.

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**HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE IN HIV/HCV CO-INFECTED PATIENTS IN IRELAND**

Mcgreal-bellone A1, Cleafy S2, Farrell G2, Bergin C2, Barry M4, Kieran J2

1Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, 2St James Hospital, Dublin, Ireland, 3St. James’s Hospital, Dublin, Ireland

**OBJECTIVES:** Hepatitis C (HCV) is a major cause of liver disease and can lead to serious illness especially when co-infection with HIV occurs. With the development of new agents to treat HCV, Health-related quality-of-life (HRQL) utilities in co-infected patients will be of use in assessing the cost-effectiveness of these treatments. The objective of this study is to establish standardized quality of life utility values for patients with chronic HCV and HIV in Ireland who have different degrees of liver disease. **METHODS:** A convenience sample of 41 patients with a diagnosis of HCV/HIV co-infection attending a specialist HIV/HCV co-infection outpatient service was recruited. Informed consent was obtained from all patients recruited and the study was approved by the institutional ethics review board. Information was