



newly diagnosed FLT3-mutated AML patient <60 years was estimated at \$114,193 compared to \$105,819 for patients with non-FLT3-mutated AML. As early mortality and early retirement were not included in indirect costs, these may be underestimated. CONCLUSIONS: FLT3-mutated AML potentially represents a greater per-patient burden than non-FLT3-mutated AML due to shorter survival and greater use of stem cell transplants. Investigational treatments targeting the FLT3 mutation may provide an additional therapeutic option and have the potential to improve clinical outcomes.

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BURDEN OF JOINT PAIN IN HEMOPHILIA A AND B PATIENTS WITH AND WITHOUT INHIBITORS

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OBJECTIVES: Hemophilia patients frequently experience joint bleeding, resulting in persistent pain and arthropathy. The objective of this study was to determine drivers of total and hemophilia-related costs among hemophilia patients with joint pain. METHODS: InVision™ Data Mart (OptumInsight Life Sciences, 1/2005-3/2009) was used to identify male patients with hemophilia A/B (ICD-09 286.0 and 286.1) who were treated with FVIII/FIX/bypassing agent and had \geq 2 years of continuous enrollment from index. Patients were stratified into severe joint pain (SJP), \geq 2 joint pain claims (ICD-9 713, 715, 716, 718, 719, 727) 12 months pre or 6 months post index, and minimal joint pain (MJP), < 2 pain claims. Cohorts were matched on age, treatment type and Charlson comorbidity scores via propensity scoring. Random forest analysis informed covariate selection for log-transformed linear regression models. Covariate selection was further refined based on variance inflation, variable significance and medical relevance. RESULTS: A total of 284 patients (142 SJP, 142 MJP); mean age=30 years were identified. Mean (median) total cost of all patients was \$630K (\$248K) over a 2-year period but were significantly higher for SJP-\$917K compared to MJP- \$354K (p<0.01). Hemophilia therapy was the main driver of total patient cost (p<0.0001). Home health visits (p<0.0001), hemophilia-related hospital visits (p<0.0001) and age (p<0.01) were also significant drivers of SJP costs. Removal of covariates measuring factor therapy or claims with hemophilia diagnoses showed that joint pain claims (p<0.01), injectible medications (p<0.01), Charlson Comorbidity Index (p<0.01), non-hemophilia lab tests (p<0.01), anti-infective medications (p<0.01), and age (p<0.001) were significantly related to total patient cost. CONCLUSIONS: The treatment of joint pain marks significantly higher hemophilia costs, however, some of these differences may be attributed to hemophilia severity (not coded within ICD-9). Modification of ICD-9 codes may help understand economics among hemophilia patients in the future.

HEALTH CARE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH POSTHERPETIC NEURALGIA AND ITS TREATMENT WITH GABAPENTIN AND PREGABALIN

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OBJECTIVES: Postherpetic neuralgia (PHN) is a painful, chronic condition. Gabapentin and pregabalin are common first-line medications for PHN and must be titrated over time to effective doses. Individuals with PHN may augment therapy with opioids to control pain. Pain management for PHN can require substantial healthcare resources. The study objective was to evaluate costs for persons with PHN. METHODS: This retrospective claims database analysis used medical and pharmacy claims data and enrollment information for adult commercial and Medicare Advantage enrollees in a large, national US health plan. Patients had ≥1 pharmacy claim for gabapentin or pregabalin from January 2006-February 2009; the date of the first claim was the index date. Patients also had diagnosis codes for PHN (ICD-9-CM 053.1x) on or within 2 days after the index date; and 6-month and 12month pre- and post-index periods, respectively, during which they were continuously enrolled. Total medical, outpatient pharmacy, and health care (medical + pharmacy) post-index costs per patient with PHN per month were compared between gabapentin and pregabalin cohorts. **RESULTS:** The study population comprised 1645 patients, 939 in the gabapentin cohort and 706 in the pregabalin cohort; 77.6% were commercial enrollees and 22.4% were Medicare Advantage enrollees. The mean (standard deviation) monthly healthcare costs were \$1,749 (\$6,117) for the gabapentin cohort and \$1,570 (\$4,935) for the pregabalin cohort (p=0.512). Mean monthly medical costs were \$1326 (\$5831) in the gabapentin cohort and \$985 (\$4,753) in the pregabalin cohort (p=0.192). The pregabalin cohort had higher mean monthly pharmacy costs (\$585 [\$727]) than did the gabapentin cohort (\$423 [\$755], p<0.001). CONCLUSIONS: Health care costs for patients with PHN are substantial: approximately \$1700 per person with PHN per month, and approximately \$20,000 per year. Health care costs between the gabapentin and pregabalin cohorts were not significantly different despite significantly different mean pharmacy costs.

HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE PATIENTS WHO ARE ADHERENT VERSUS NON-ADHERENT WITH INFLIXIMAB THERAPY

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OBJECTIVES: Prior research evaluated the impact of infliximab (IFX) adherence on resource use and costs in Crohn's disease (CD). Purpose was to examine the association between adherence and all-cause healthcare costs among those who are treated with IFX for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). $\overline{\text{METHODS:}}$ Patients with >1claims for IFX initiated between January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2009 who had >2

IBD diagnoses of Crohn's disease (CD; ICD-9-CM: 555.XX) or ulcerative colitis (UC; ICD-9-CM: 556.XX) during the pre-index period were identified from Thomson Reuters Marketscan® Databases. Patients had to be >18 years, continuously enrolled for 12 months before and after IFX initiation, and had no prior use of IFX during 360days pre-index. Patients with prior biologic therapy or rheumatoid arthritis (ICD-9-CM: 714.XX) were excluded. Adherent group was classified as having a medication possession ratio (MPR) of >80%; non-adherent group had an MPR<80%. Differences between the adherent and non-adherent groups were assessed using propensity-weighted general linear models. RESULTS: A total of 1,646 IBD patients were identified (945 CD; 701 UC) with a mean (SD) age of 44.4 (15.6) and 48.3% were female. Of these, 41% were adherent and 59% were non-adherent. Propensityweighted mean total healthcare costs excluding IFX were \$13,424 vs. \$32,522 (P<0.0001) for the adherent vs. non-adherent groups. Mean all-cause component costs were \$2,458 vs. \$17,634 (P<0.0001) for hospitalizations, \$7,357 vs. \$10,909 (P<0.0001) for outpatient visits, and \$236 vs. \$458 (P<0.0001) for ER visits in the adherent vs. non-adherent groups, respectively; total costs (component+ IFX) were also significantly lower in the adherent group. No significant differences were observed in other prescription costs. CONCLUSIONS: Medication adherence was associated with significantly lower total healthcare costs in patients treated with IFX for IBD. These differences may be explained by reduced hospitalization, outpatient, and ER costs observed in the adherent vs. non-adherent groups.

BURDEN OF ILLNESS OF AGGRESSIVE SYSTEMIC MASTOCYTOSIS (ASM) IN THE UNITED STATES

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OBJECTIVES: Little data are available on the burden of ASM, a subtype of systemic mastocytosis (SM) and severe form of mast cell disease that may progress to mast cell leukemia. This study reviewed the literature in order to estimate the burden of ASM in the US. METHODS: A systematic literature review was conducted to identify publications from 2000-2011: 181 citations were identified and 6 articles abstracted. The US population-level burden of ASM was estimated using an Excel model. Direct treatment costs were calculated from treatment patterns described in identified publications. RESULTS: ASM involves multiple organ systems, resulting in potentially severe symptoms/conditions including anaphylaxis/allergic reactions, osteoporosis, hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, gastrointestinal symptoms, fatigue, and weight loss. There is no known cure for ASM. Median survival was 41 months in a published cohort study. No publications were identified providing US epidemiology data. Two estimates were calculated for the prevalence of ASM in the US in 2010: 616 and 1,220. A global prevalence rate of 0.2/100,000 resulted in 616 cases. An SM prevalence rate of 3.3/100,000 (assuming 12% ASM) resulted in 1,220 cases. Incidence was estimated at 111 cases in 2010 using an SM incidence rate of 0.3/100,000 (assuming 12% ASM). The proportion of ASM/SM cases ranged from 7-18% in the literature with 12% from the largest study. No studies were identified examining the economic burden of ASM. In this model, direct monthly per-patient costs were estimated between \$5232 and \$8741. These are likely underestimated as a result of limited resource utilization information in the literature. CONCLUSIONS: These results provide preliminary estimates for the burden of ASM in the UNITED STATES. Additional research can assist in further quantifying these estimates. In addition, it is likely that ASM patients experience tremendous indirect costs due to the symptomatic burden of the disease and further evaluation is warranted.

ASSOCIATION OF PATIENT COST OR REIMBURSEMENT CHALLENGES WITH HEALTH CARE RESOURCE UTILIZATION, QUALITY OF LIFE, AND WORK PRODUCTIVITY AMONG PATIENTS WITH INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

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OBJECTIVES: To evaluate the association of patient cost or reimbursement challenges with healthcare resource utilization, quality of life (OoL), and work productivity among patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). METHODS: A syndicated study of IBD patients in the US was conducted. Patients ≥18 years of age were recruited via the National Health and Wellness Survey and Lightspeed Research Panel. Patients completed a survey during August-November 2010 in which they were asked if they experienced cost or reimbursement challenges related to prescription medication. The Medical Outcomes Study (MOS) IBD questionnaire was used to assess QoL. Work productivity was assessed using the Work Productivity and Activity Impairment (WPAI) questionnaire. To measure health care resource utilization, the number of provider, emergency room (ER) and hospital visits in the past six months was collected. Bivariate differences between the patient groups (those with cost or reimbursement issues versus those without) for resource utilization, QoL, and work impairment were assessed using chi-square tests for categorical variables and t-tests for continuous variables. RESULTS: Of 1098 IBD patients currently receiving prescription medication, 21% (n=231) reported that cost had previously prevented them from taking medication. Among patients who had ever taken prescription medication (n=1343), 13% (n=178) reported ever having a problem getting reimbursed for medication. Sixty-eight of these patients (38%) indicated their medication was not covered by insurance. Patients reporting cost or reimbursement issues had a higher probability of having provider, ER and hospital visits in the prior six months (all p<0.05). Furthermore, these patients reported greater work impairment and lower QoL (both p<0.05). CONCLUSIONS: Among IBD patients, cost or reimbursement challenges may be associated with more resource