antimicrobial-susceptible and -resistant pathogens were obtained from the literature or estimated. Resistance and co-resistance prevalence to first- and second-line therapy for the major CAP pathogens were also derived from local surveillance studies. Resource use was obtained from Canadian published sources. Total costs were estimated using standard Ontario sources and a third-party payer perspective. Outcome measures included first-line clinical failure, second-line treatment and hospitalizations avoided.

RESULTS: The base case incremental cost-effectiveness ratios (ICERs) comparing moxifloxacin/azithromycin with azithromycin/moxifloxacin were CDN$96.04 per clinical failure avoided, CDN$118.71 per second-line treatment avoided, and CDN$502.47 per hospitalization avoided. One-way sensitivity analyses demonstrated that the model is robust to change. The probabilistic sensitivity analysis reported a mean ICER of CDN$133 (Sd601.47) per clinical failure avoided and a 22% probability of a moxifloxacin/azithromycin strategy being cost-saving compared to azithromycin/moxifloxacin.

CONCLUSION: Antimicrobial failure significantly affected outcomes and costs in empirical outpatient CAP treatment. Despite the higher costs of proprietary antimicrobial treatments in Canada compared to generic drugs, better clinical outcomes and relatively low total treatment costs in empirical outpatient CAP treatment. Despite the higher costs of proprietary antimicrobial treatments in Canada compared to generic treatments, first-line treatment with a fluoroquinolone effective against the major CAP pathogens, including strains resistant to other antimicrobials, produces significantly better clinical outcomes and relatively low total treatment costs compared to generic drugs.

**ECONOMIC AND CLINICAL OUTCOMES OF OMALIZUMAB USE FOR TREATING ASTHMA IN A MANAGED CARE POPULATION**

**PRS10**

Prescott J

The MCM Group, Marlton, NJ, USA

OBJECTIVE: The objectives of this analysis were to: 1) Identify a population of asthma patients new to treatment with omalizumab; 2) Measure asthma-specific treatment costs and utilization for patients initiating treatment with omalizumab; and compare and quantify, on an annual basis, differences in economics and other measurable outcomes following initiation of treatment with omalizumab. METHODS: Using integrated medical and pharmacy claims data (obtained from the IMS/Pharmetrics Patient-centric Database), patients were included in the analysis based on the presence of a diagnosis of asthma (ICD-9 code 493.3) during calendar years 2004 through 2005. Additional requirements included incident (new) use of omalizumab in 2004. Clinical and economic information related to the treatment of asthma were captured using Episode Treatment Group (ETG) episode-building software. RESULTS: In 2004, 542 patients (representing 0.1% of the overall asthma population) were identified as being newly treated with omalizumab. Within this group, 66% were diagnosed with extrinsic asthma and 78% with rhinitis. Total annual costs related to the care of asthma for this group was CDN$16,643 with $5,926 in medical expenditures. Following these patients into the next calendar year (2005), pharmacy costs increased by 33% but medical costs decreased by 42% (to CDN$3411), driven primarily by lower inpatient utilization, admission rates (from 6.1% to 3.8%), and emergency room utilization. Additionally, there was decreased use of oral corticosteroids and overall use of asthma controllers. CONCLUSION: Treatment with omalizumab represents a significant pharmacy investment, and measurable benefits were observed with respect to medical expenditures and asthma-specific outcomes. However, these observations are limited to a very specific patient population and further study may be necessary to determine applicability to other patient groups.

**LONG TERM COST-EFFECTIVENESS AND COST-UTILITY ANALYSIS FOR SMOKING CESSATION IN CZECH REPUBLIC**

**PRS11**

Skoupá J1, Doležal T2, Hájek P3, Kovár P3

1Pharma Projects, Prague, Czech Republic. 2Charles University in Prague, Prague 10, Czech Republic. 3Pfizer, Praha 5, Czech Republic

OBJECTIVE: To compare cost-effectiveness (CE) and cost-utility (CU) for varenicline vs. other interventions used for smoking cessation in Czech Republic. METHODS: The Benefit of Smoking Cessation on Outcomes (BENESCO) Markov simulation model was employed to compare different approaches. The model simulates morbidity and mortality for the Czech population of smokers. In our model a 20-years time horizon was used to calculate costs and benefits from the payer’s perspective under current conditions (smoking cessation interventions are not reimbursed). Five co-morbidities were considered: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, coronary heart disease, stroke, lung cancer and asthma exacerbations. Calculations were performed in 2007 costs and prices, assuming that 25% of smokers in each age group make one attempt to quit smoking. Abstinence rates were extrapolated from literature sources. Local costs and data were obtained either from literature or expert panels. Assessed interventions included varenicline, bupropion, nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) and unaided cessation. RESULTS: Varenicline dominated all other interventions both in QALY and LY, and was cost-saving over the assessed period of 20 years. Benefit of varenicline was most significant in comparison with unaided cessation (QALY gained 18,186, LYG 12,243, deaths avoided 2004, costs saved €35.5 million—data for all smokers exposed to intervention). Varenicline was also dominant in comparison to the most frequently used approach—NRT (QALY gained 7358, LYG 4953, deaths avoided 811, costs saved €13 million). Bupropion showed similar results to NRT. Varenicline dominated all other interventions already after five years. CONCLUSION: Varenicline is the most effective and cost-effective smoking cessation intervention in Czech Republic from the health care payer’s perspective. As the prevalence of smokers is high; health care providers should consider smoking cessation support, including reimbursement strategies. Further scenarios to confirm CE and CU also under these conditions are needed.

**INCREMENTAL COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF COMBINATION INHALER THERAPY IN MODERATE TO SEVERE COPD**

**PRS12**

Oby Y

University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO USA

OBJECTIVE: To assess the incremental cost-effectiveness of combining tiotropium (TIO) with salmeterol (SAL) or salmeterol-fluticasone (SFC) in moderate to severe COPD compared with TIO alone. METHODS: A Markov model was constructed to estimate the incremental quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) of the three treatment arms. Efficacy data were obtained from a recently published large randomized controlled study (Canadian Optimal Therapy of COPD trial). Cost data were obtained from publicly available data. The cycle length for the model was set to 3 months and the maximum time horizon was set to 3 years. The cost-effective analysis was conducted from a third-party payer’s perspective in the US health care system. Future costs and effects were discounted at 3%. All costs are reported in 2007 dollars. Multiple one-way sensitivity analyses and a Monte Carlo simulation were performed to handle uncertainty. RESULTS: Incremental cost-effectiveness ratios compared with TIO alone were $152,743/QALY in the TIO + SAL group, and $51,610/QALY in the TIO + SFC group. An acceptability curve revealed TIO + SAL was more cost-
Abstracts

PRS13

PEDIATRIC ASTHMA: AN EMPLOYER PERSPECTIVE ON ANNUAL EMPLOYEE AND DEPENDENT COSTS FOR MEDICAL CARE AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Kleinman N1, Brook RA2, Ramachandran S1, Wagner S1

1The HCMS Group, Cheyenne, WY, USA, 2The JeSTARx Group, Newfoundland, NJ, USA

OBJECTIVE: Management of pediatric asthma is known to be very costly. However, little is known about the costs to the parent. We aimed to objectively assess employee and dependent costs for employees with children with asthma (EWCWA) compared with employees with children without asthma (EWCWOA).

METHODS: A retrospective analysis was conducted using multiple US-based employers’ data from 2001 to 2007. Data included medical claims, pharmacy claims, payroll, work absence, and demographics. Asthma diagnosis (ICD-9 codes 493.xx) or pharmacy claims for an asthma controller medication were used to identify employees with asthmatic dependents aged <12 years for the EWCWA cohort. Employees in the EWCWOA cohort were identified based on dependent age and lack of an asthma diagnosis (ICD-9 code) or pharmacy claim for a controller medication. The index date in the EWCWA cohort was defined as the date of first asthma diagnosis during 2001 or later; the first pediatric medical or pharmacy claim date was used in the EWCWOA cohort. All costs were adjusted to 2007 dollars and incremental costs (EWCWA—EWCWOA) were calculated using two-part regression models and presented as $2001 or later; the first pediatric medical or pharmacy claim date was identified based on dependent age.

RESULTS: Data were available for the EWCWA (dependent age <4 yr: n = 4577; 4–7 yr: n = 4343; 8–11 yr: n = 3954; total <12 yr: n = 11,794) and EWCWOA (dependent age <4 yr: n = 32,558; 4–7 yr: n = 28,017; 8–11 yr: n = 27,863; total <12 yr: n = 64,812) cohorts. The incremental annual costs (EWCWA—EWCWOA) for employees and dependents (health care/prescriptions), respectively, were: dependent age <4 yr: -$56/$73† and $663†/$568†; 4–7 yr: $199*/$109† and $904†/$555†; 8–11 yr: $364*/$116† and $1081†/$586†; <12 years: $154†/$95 and $862/$534 (*P < 0.05, †P < 0.01).

CONCLUSION: Pediatric asthma results in significant additional costs for both employees and dependents.

PRS14

BENEFITS FROM IMPROVED ASTHMA CARE IN FINLAND 1987–2005 ASSESSED WITH ANALYSIS OF COMPREHENSIVE SOCIETAL COST AND BEHAVIOUR OF COST DRIVERS

Reissell E1, Herse F2, Vaananen JJP1, Rinta S2, Bengtstrom M4,
Tamminen NV, Parvinen PMT1

1Nordic Healthcare Group, Helsinki, Finland, 2Pharma Industry Finland, Helsinki, Finland

OBJECTIVE: The prevalence of chronic asthma has tripled during last two decades in Finland, but overall costs of disease management have not increased and patient level costs have decreased significantly. We analyzed with comprehensive time series all expenditures as well as the effectiveness of interventions such as the national action program (1994–2004) and development of pharmacotherapy. METHODS: Finnish registry based data from 1987 to 2005 was combined to evaluate all costs of asthma. These included comprehensive health care costs, sick-leave compensations, disability pensions, and loss of productivity; all converted to 2004 euros. Several scenarios were constructed to identify the important changes in care processes and cost drivers during this period. RESULTS: The number of patients with valid special reimbursement for asthma medication increased significantly (83,000 to 216,000) during the observation period yet the overall expenditure of care remained at the level of 1987, at €240 million. Cost of medications doubled during study period, but savings were achieved as other expenditures, mainly hospitalizations, and loss of productivity decreased by 50 to 75%. Treatment effectiveness increased as asthma related deaths, disability pensions, sick-leave payments and institutional care decreased significantly (50 to 70%). The cost-saving scenarios showed that a significant part (40%) of positive effects was attained by launch of new asthma drugs and asthma piper from 1989 to 1994. The initiation of the national care programme with its focus on anti-inflammatory treatment from disease onset, improved diagnostics and more active self care further increased this positive trend. CONCLUSION: Comprehensive assessment of large patient cohorts and long term economical outcomes is a useful method for evaluation of outcomes in chronic diseases. Identification of different cost drivers is needed as the cost of new interventions is increasing and their benefits should ideally be assessed in relation to their broader societal influence.

PRS15

THE BURDEN OF NASAL CONGESTION IN THE UNITED STATES

Stull D1, Ivanova J2, Long G1, Birnbaum HG1, Crespi S4, Sandor DW1

1United Biosource Corporation, Bethesda, MD, USA, 2Analysis Group, Inc, New York, NY, USA, 3Analysis Group, Inc, Boston, MA, USA, 4Schering-Plough Corp, Kenilworth, NJ, USA, 5Tuoro University College of Medicine, Hackensack, NJ, USA

OBJECTIVE: The prevalence and costs of allergic rhinitis (AR) in the United States are estimated to be very high. Recently, research has reported that not all AR symptoms are of equal importance to patients. In particular, evidence is mounting that nasal congestion is the most bothersome symptom of AR and thus may account for most of the burden of illness. However, unlike AR which has an ICD-9-CM code thus facilitating estimation of burden of illness, the cost of nasal congestion must be obtained indirectly. The purpose of the present analysis is to estimate the national costs of AR that are attributable to nasal congestion. METHODS: Data come from a recent national study of the effect of AR symptoms on patients’ lives (e.g., sleep, daytime somnolence, mood, and work and school productivity). These relative effects of nasal congestion were then applied to U.S. cost estimates derived from the literature and a national employer claims database to estimate some of the economic burden of AR that could be attributed to nasal congestion. RESULTS: Results suggest that almost three-fourths of the cost associated with burden of illness related to AR is attributable to nasal congestion. Thus, approximately $3.4 billion of the $4.8 billion in direct costs for AR and approximately $3.1 billion of the $4.3 billion in indirect costs for AR can be attributed to nasal congestion. CONCLUSION: The direct and indirect costs attrib-