study demonstrated that non-adherence to atypical antipsychotics leads to more hospitalizations and hospital days in the treatment of schizophrenia.

**PMH41**

**PREDICTORS OF SWITCHING ANTIPSYCHOTICS IN THE TREATMENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA**

**Thomas NA1, Nyhuis AW2, Faries D2, Ascher-Svanum H3, Kinon BJ1**

1Eli Lilly and Company, New York, NY, USA, 2Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN, USA

**OBJECTIVES:** To identify which patient baseline characteristics and which types of early changes in patients’ clinical status are most predictive of switching antipsychotics in the long-term treatment of schizophrenia. **METHODS:** This post-hoc analysis used data from a randomized, open-label, multi-site, one-year cost-effectiveness trial of olanzapine, risperidone, and typical antipsychotics in the treatment of schizophrenia. Study protocol permitted switching of antipsychotics when clinically warranted. Baseline characteristics were assessed using standard psychiatric measures and systematic review of medical records. In addition to baseline socio-demographics, co-morbid medical and psychiatric conditions, body weight, clinical, and functional characteristics, the prediction model included change scores on clinical measures (PANSS, five PANSS factor subscales, Barnes Akathisia Scale, Simpson Angus Scale) during the first two weeks of treatment. Cox proportional hazards model was used to identify the best predictors of switching from patients’ initial randomized antipsychotic. **RESULTS:** About one-third (29.5%, 190/644) switched antipsychotics before the end of the one-year trial. Five variables were identified as best predictors of switching during the 1-year trial (p < 0.05): absence of antipsychotic use in the prior year, pre-existing depression, lack of lifetime substance use disorder, less improvement or worsening following two weeks of treatment on either clinician-rated akathisia (Barnes Akathisia Scale), and/or anxiety/depression symptoms (PANSS). A strong trend was observed for female gender (p = 0.058). **CONCLUSIONS:** Switching of antipsychotics appears to be prevalent in the naturalistic treatment of schizophrenia, and can be predicted by a small and distinct set of factors. Interestingly, pre-existing depressive symptomatology and less improvement or worsening of anxiety and depressive symptoms following two weeks of treatment were among the more robust predictors of future switching of antipsychotics in this one-year study.

**PMH42**

**COMPLIANCE AND PERSISTENCE: A COMPARISON BETWEEN TYPICAL AND ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTIC TREATMENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA PATIENTS**

**Liu GG1, Sun SX2, Zhao Z3**

1University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA, 2Walgreens Health Services, Deerfield, IL, USA, 3Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN, USA

**OBJECTIVES:** To determine and compare the compliance and persistence to typical and atypical antipsychotics in the treatment of schizophrenia patients. **METHODS:** The study was based on NC Medicaid claims database. Patients were included if they had a diagnosis of schizophrenia (ICD-9 295.XX), received at least two antipsychotic prescriptions during the period after index date and were continuously enrolled in NC Medicaid Program during three month prior and one year post treatment periods. Medication possession ratio (MPR), persistence and medication use gap were used as compliance measures. Both descriptive and multivariate model were conducted to determine the difference in adherence/persistence to antipsychotic medications between typical and atypical antipsychotic. **RESULTS:** A total of 919 patients (469 in typical and 450 in atypical) met the selection criteria for 3-month prior and 12-month after antipsychotic treatment. There were statistically significant differences between typical and atypical antipsychotics in terms of demographics, comorbidities, resource utilization in prior period, and adherence. As compared with those in typical groups, patients in atypical group were significantly younger (42.3 vs. 44.4, p = 0.0195), less blacks (33.1% vs. 58.4%), had more comorbid diseases (2.7 vs. 2.3, p = 0.0025), more hospital visits (0.3 vs. 0.17, p = 0.002) and greater total costs in prior period ($2703 vs. $2010, p = 0.012). The costs and utilization in prior period indicated that patients in atypical groups were sicker than those in typical groups. Patients in atypical group were more adherent to antipsychotics (35.8% vs. 16.4%, p < 0.0001), less gaps (42.4% vs. 67%, p < 0.0001), and stayed consistently in medication longer (229 days vs. 146 days). **CONCLUSIONS:** The results from this study indicated that there existed significant differences in terms of demographics, compliance and persistence between typical and atypical antipsychotics in the treatment of schizophrenia.

**PMH43**

**RAMIFICATIONS OF SWITCHING ANTIPSYCHOTICS IN THE TREATMENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA**

**Thomas NA1, Faries D2, Ascher-Svanum H3, Nyhuis AW2, Kinon BJ1**

1Eli Lilly and Company, New York, NY, USA, 2Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN, USA

**OBJECTIVES:** To assess the clinical, functional, and economic ramifications of switching antipsychotics for any cause during treatment of schizophrenia. **METHODS:** We used outpatient data from a randomized, open-label, one-year cost-effectiveness trial of olanzapine, risperidone, and typical antipsychotics in the treatment of schizophrenia. Study protocol permitted switching of antipsychotics when clinically warranted. Resource utilization was abstracted from medical records. Treatment outcomes were assessed with standard psychiatric measures. Changes from pre-to-post switch were assessed among patients who switched from randomized antipsychotics. Switchers and non-switchers were compared on risk for crisis-related events (e.g., hospitalization). **RESULTS:** About one-third of the patients (30.2%, 185/612) were switched from randomized antipsychotics: 14.9% from olanzapine, 27.9% from risperidone, and 48.5% from typical antipsychotics. Following antipsychotic switch, switchers experienced significant improvements in symptoms and social relations (p < 0.001), and numerical cost reductions ($3.72 per day less, p = 0.320). Compared to non-switchers, switchers were at significantly higher risk for crisis-related events (p = 0.006), experienced them sooner (p = 0.004), and accrued higher crisis-related service costs (p < 0.05). **CONCLUSIONS:** Although switching antipsychotics is an effective “rescue” option, it is costly in personal and economic terms. The optimal treatment strategy is to begin treatment with the antipsychotic most likely to lead to effective treatment for each individual patient.

**PMH44**

**ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF PATIENTS NOT ADHERING TO MEDICATIONS IN THE TREATMENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA**

**Sun SX1, Liu GG2, Zhao Z3**

1Walgreens Health Services, Deerfield, IL, USA, 2University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA, 3Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN, USA

**OBJECTIVES:** To review the literature addressing the economic consequences of nonadherence in the treatment of schizophrenia. This study also seeks to extend the review results to provide