minutes at teaching hospitals and 175 minutes at non-teaching hospitals. There were significant variations in duration of routine ED visits across race groups at teaching and non-teaching hospitals. The risk-adjusted results show that the mean duration of routine ED visits for black/African American and Asian patients when compared to visits for white patients was shorter by 10.0 and 3.4 percent, respectively, at teaching hospitals; and longer by 3.6 and 13.8 percent, respectively, at non-teaching hospitals. Hispanic patients experienced 8.7 percent longer ED stays when compared to white patients at non-teaching hospitals. **CONCLUSIONS:** There is significant racial disparity in the duration of routine ED visits, especially in non-teaching hospitals where non-white patients experience longer ED stays compared to white patients. The variation in duration of routine ED visits at teaching hospitals when compared to non-teaching hospitals was smaller across race groups.

HEALTH CARE USE & POLICY STUDIES – Diagnosis Related Group

PHP7
DRG SYSTEM IN ITALY: EVALUATION OF DIFFERENT REIMBURSEMENTS FOR SURGICAL PROCEDURES AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND HOSPITAL LEVEL

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OBJECTIVES: The Italian National Health Service (*Servizio Sanitario Nazionale-SSN*) is structured on two levels: the national and regional level. The national government defines the benefits package (essential levels of care, *livelli essenziali di assistenza-LEA*) to which citizens are constitutionally entitled and which each Regional Health Service (*Servizio Sanitario Regionale-SSR*) is responsible for. Since 1997 the regions have been fully autonomous in organizing and managing their SSR, including the definition of DRG tariffs for hospital admissions. The aim of this study is compare the regional differences among tariffs for the main surgical DRGs of each Major Diagnostic Category (MDC). **METHODS:** In order to identify the surgical DRGs with the highest volumes for each MDC, we used the dataset of admissions registered in 2010 by all hospitals (DRG version 24 ICD9-CM), published by the Italian Department of Health (*Ministero della Salute*), and we analyzed the variability among tariffs by calculating their average and standard deviations (the extra-reimbursement has not been considered). **RESULTS:** Average tariffs were calculated starting from the standard regional tariff for each DRG. Comparing the first 10 DRGs, we identified a variation in the average tariff which rose from -1.8% to +22.6% and a standard deviation with a minimum of 425€ and a maximum of 1443€. Further complexity is given by the intra-regional variation by type of hospital, where we observed a variation inside the same region of 82% for the same DRG. **CONCLUSIONS:** The SSN is characterized by a high variability of regional DRG tariffs, also inside the regions. Moreover in Italy there is not a defined procedure to update the classification of DRGs and the related tariffs. Therefore there is a need to establish a systematic periodical review, which should involve all the different stakeholders of SSN, and to share data updated with them about the volume of admissions.

PHP8
SWITCHING THE PERFORMANCE VOLUME LIMIT (PVL) TO DEGRESSIVE FINANCING METHOD IN THE HUNGARIAN DRG-BASED HOSPITAL REIMBURSEMENT BETWEEN 2009-2012

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OBJECTIVES: The aim of our study was to investigate the financial effects of switching from the so-called performance volume limit (PVL) to degressive financing method in the Hungarian DRG-based hospital financing. **METHODS:** The data in our analysis were derived from the nationwide administrative dataset of the National Health Insurance Fund Administration (OEP), the only health care financing agency. We examined mainly the period between 2009 and 2012. The difference in hospital reimbursement between the preannounced DRG reimbursement rate and degressive cap (upper ceiling) was calculated both on national level and in the case of the Clinical Center of the University of Pécs. **RESULTS:** The ratio of partially paid [based on preannounced performance base-fee (PPBF) or performance volume limit (PVL) financing method] active inpatient cost-weights to total cost-weights varied extremely between 2009-2012. In the case of PPBF financing in 2009, 25-30% of the total national performance fell under floating fee structure, resulting in a monthly change in the monetary (Hungarian Forint, HUF) value of a DRG cost-weight. In the case of degressive PVL from 2011 onwards, one to seven percent of the national performance fell in the degressive zone, with a prefixed value of HUF 45,000/cost-weighs. For the Clinical Centre of the University of Pécs, this partial reimbursement resulted in a large financial deficit in 2009, when PPBF was applied. In 2010 and 2011, the deficit of the University of Pécs lessened to some extent compared to 2009; however, it was still rather high (HUF 1.46 and HUF 1.3 billion, respectively). Due to partial health insurance reimbursement, the University of Pécs realized HUF 8.1 billion revenue losses between 2004 and 2012. **CONCLUSIONS:** Application of preannounced performance base-fee rendered institutional financing nearly incalculable. Renewed introduction of degressive performance volume limit in 2011 made institutional financing more calculable; however, it failed to entirely stop source withdrawal.

HEALTH CARE USE & POLICY STUDIES – Disease Management

PHP9
TRENDS IN USE OF HEALTH ECONOMIC EVIDENCE FOR DEVELOPING CLINICAL GUIDELINES

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OBJECTIVES: The recent reforms and policy changes have increased the cost pressures on all health care stakeholders, including clinical experts. In the past, clinical guidelines were developed independent of cost or economic considerations. However, increasingly, more clinical guidelines are mentioning cost concerns and referring to economic data in new recommendations. The objective of this study was to analyze trends in the use of health economic information for developing clinical guidelines. **METHODS:** To understand trends in use of health economic information we conducted targeted search for clinical guidelines, expert recommendations, and consensus statements with specific mention of "cost" or "economic" or related terms. A systematic literature search was undertaken for the databases Pubmed, Google Scholar and Cochrane. The guidelines published between 2003-2012 were included. For guidelines which met the search criteria, data was collected for the name of the authors, indication, year of publication, country/region, and context of use of cost/economic evidence. **RESULTS:** Sixteen clinical guidelines published between 2003-2012 met the inclusion criteria for specific mention of cost/economic evidence. More than 50% of these guidelines were published between 2006-2012. For indication, 3 out of 16 guidelines were for diabetes, while the rest were for different indications. In these16 guidelines "cost effectiveness" was mentioned 14 times, either referencing cost-effectiveness data or to mention the importance of such data for selecting treatment options. The guidelines commonly cite high cost of disease or high economic burden as one of the considerations for developing new recommendations (11 out of 16). Another term that was commonly used by these guidelines was "cost-benefit," which was mentioned 5 times in these guidelines. Notably, QALY was rarely mentioned (1 out of 16 times) in these guidelines. **CONCLUSIONS:** This analysis suggests that some clinical experts groups are increasingly showing willingness to use and incorporate health economic information for developing new recommendations.

HEALTH CARE USE & POLICY STUDIES – Drug/Device/Diagnostic Use & Policy

PHP10
ANALYSIS OF THE WAXMAN-HATCH ACT PHARMACEUTICAL PATENT EXTENSIONS (1984-2012)

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OBJECTIVES: The Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act of 1984 (Waxman- Waxman Act - WHA) established a patent extension system that allows sponsors of new drugs (NDAs) and biologic applications (BLAs) approved by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to recover part of the patent time dedicated to clinical trials and to the FDA drug review process. The maximum extension is 5 years and the effective patent life from approval to patent expiration cannot exceed 14 years. We assessed the characteristic of drugs and biologics that had a patent extension in the period 1984-2012 and examined the patent life timeline from clinical trials to regulatory review, and from marketing authorization to patent expiration (i.e. effective patent life). **METHODS:** Data were derived from the FDA, the US Patent and Trademark Office, and the US Federal Register. Descriptive analyses were performed. T-test was used to assess differences in averages. Significant level was set at 0.05. **RESULTS:** The USPTO listed 499 pharmaceuticals with patent extensions in the study period; 453 NDAs (90.8%), 38 BLAs (7.6%), and 9 vaccines (1.8%). Drug regulatory and patent information was available for 323 pharmaceuticals (287 NDA, 32 BLA and 4 vaccines). The average±stdev patent extension was 2.7±1.4 years (median=2.2 years; 95% CI=2.62.8). The extension was longer for vaccines (3.7±1.3 years) than for NDAs (2.7±1.4 years) and BLAs (2.4±1.5 years). The average clinical trials time was 5.9±3.1 years, being similar for NDAs, BLAs and vaccines. The average FDA review time was 1.7±1.3 years (higher for vaccines 2.6±2.5 years). The average length of the effective patent life was 8.7±7.0 years without patent extensions and 11.7±6.8 years after the extensions. **CONCLUSIONS:** A large number of pharmaceuticals were granted patent extensions in the US. The WHA significantly increased the effective patent life of pharmaceuticals.

PHP11
PRELIMINARY STUDY ON DEVELOPMENT OF BUDGET IMPACT ANALYSIS GUIDELINES IN KOREA: THE COMPARISON OF GUIDELINES ON BUDGET IMPACT ANALYSIS FOR HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES

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OBJECTIVES: A budget impact analysis(BIA) is a useful tool for a health care decision maker in estimating the financial impact of the new technology. In Korea, the content and presentation of results of the BIA have been proposed but detailed guidance on methods for BIA are not yet available. To evaluate the international landscape of BIA guidance, we compared guidelines of BIA outside of Korea. **METHODS:** A literature review was performed. Research for guidelines was based on data published in latest official papers or reports from ISPOR and national institutes in Canada, Ireland, and Poland. **RESULTS:** In all guidelines, the recommended perspective was that of public purchaser. A time horizon of 2-5 years was considered to be desirable. It was stated that data on a technology and its use should be included in BIA, which is helpful for decision makers. Published guidelines provided a similar description of target population, but it was different whether or not off-label usage of drugs was included in assumption of population size. The approaches to measurement and evaluation of costs varied in different regions. The costing included direct costs associated with the technology in four guidelines but items of other costs were specified