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more sensitive to drugs that are very cost effective, that target very severe disease, 'severity of disease', and 'social class' were significant attributes in responder's...throughout the formulary listing process, it is important to select and value rele-

OBJECTIVES: Mammography screening has been considered as an effective way for...screening to reduce the mortality of breast cancer. In Taiwan, early detection of breast cancer was quite low among women eligible for this benefit, and factors that...studies. The total economic value of Adalimumab in Italy amounted to €27,700. The sensitivity analysis showed a cost per QALY gained ranging between €19,487 and €32,453. The analysis of the Boston market, developed for each pathology, indicates that the cost per QALY gained of Adalimumab is below the common WTP with the exception of psoriasis ($52,600). CONCLUSIONS: The study provides a first indication of the total economic value of Adalimumab, that is below the threshold value for health care interventions for all the main pathologies treated by this molecule. Results are useful for decision makers, who should ensure that patients have equal access to a cost-effective treatment, as well as promote research and development of innovative molecules with greater cost-effectiveness ratio.

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ARE HOSPITAL INPATIENT COSTS LOWER FOR MEDICARE ADVANTAGE ENROLLEES THAN MEDICARE FEE-FOR-SERVICE BENEFICIARIES?

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OBJECTIVES: This paper compares the private health plans that enroll Medicare beneficiaries—known as Medicare Advantage (MA) plans— in cost to the tradit-

OUT-OF-POCKET DRUG EXPENDITURE AMONG USERS OF THE AMBULATORY CARE SERVICES AT THE MEXICAN INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SECURITY (IMSS)

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OB jECTIVES: To quantify out-of-pocket drug expenditure among ambulatory care users and to identify the variables associated with the payment for medicines during 2010 at the Mexican Institute of Social Security. METHODS: Data from the institutional health survey 2010 was used to estimate the total annual mean drug out-of-pocket expenditure among ambulatory care users.

Statistical analysis was performed to test for mean expenditure differences by age and gender. A binary logistic regression model was constructed to identify the main factors related to payment for prescribed medicine. Data was aggregated according to the marginality index estimated by the Mexican National Council of Population to consider socio-economic regional variations. The exchange rate was $12.34 pesos per dollar. RESULTS: A total of 71.9% of the health care users received...