MODELING SOCIOECONOMIC BURDEN OF COPD IN UKRAINE: 2012-2020 PERSPECTIVE

Asthma, a major chronic respiratory disease, has become a cause of significant economic burden. For Ukraine as for developing country, the human capital (employed economically active population) is the most important national asset and COPD-related work-place loss may represent a serious threat for Ukrainian economics.

According to the GOLD report (2011), COPD poses a significant burdens in health care budgets. The impact of impaired and lost productivity is less known. The aim of this study was to explore the economic burden of COPD in patients of working age in The Netherlands across three areas: health care utilization, impaired productivity and lost productivity resulting from early retirement due to COPD.

The Netherlands. Costs due to lost productivity were based on a cohort of COPD patients of working age found in a Markov model for 20 years until (early) retirement or death. The costing year was 2011. RESULTS: The annual health care costs for COPD patients aged 45-64 years in The Netherlands were estimated at around €70 million. The annual impaired productivity costs were €212 million. Lost productivity due to early retirement were estimated at around €510 million with €340 million for men and €170 million for women. These lost productivity costs represented 21% of the productivity that may have been generated by COPD patients if they had not retired early. CONCLUSIONS: The ‘COPD UNCOVERED’ model was used to estimate the economic burden of COPD in The Netherlands. The associated costs of impaired and COPD patients of working age were considerable and several times higher than the medical cost of COPD.

In the Slovak Republic, Staloral allergen immunotherapy of allergic rhinitis is effective from the clinical as well as pharmacoeconomic point of view. A new approach has focused on reducing these barriers and there is a need for stronger government action to introduce or improve national medicine policy as well as effective pricing policies.

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