

PP135 The Cost-Of-Illness Of The Management Of Patients Affected By Hyperparathyroidism In The Italian Healthcare Setting

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Introduction: Hyperparathyroidism is a medical condition characterized by an excess of parathyroid hormone (PTH) in the blood. This hormone is produced by the parathyroid glands, located behind the thyroid gland. PTH plays a crucial role in regulating calcium levels in the body, which is necessary for muscle activity, nerve transmission, and maintaining bone density. In this study, the authors aimed to determine the parameters necessary for defining the delivery process of interventions for managing hyperparathyroidism.

Methods: To achieve this, a group of Key Opinion Leaders (KOLs) was surveyed using a questionnaire to investigate specific drivers such as the duration of interventions, drug therapies employed, and materials required. The authors also estimated the indirect costs associated with patients and caregivers. The economic analysis considered the perspectives of both the Italian National Health Service (SSN) and the community. The analysis was conducted using Activity Based Costing (ABC) methods to determine the full cost sustained for a parathyroidectomy surgery and pharmacological therapies per patient treated, as well as the average resources absorbed by a patient managed through pure surveillance.

Results: The results showed that the average annual cost of parathyroidectomy and pharmacological therapies per patient was EUR5,193.20 and EUR1,726.96, respectively. Productivity losses due to the interventions amounted to EUR858.21 and EUR66.80 for the patient and caregiver, respectively. The pure surveillance strategy incurred an average yearly cost of EUR197.42.

Conclusions: The study's major limitation was the lack of evidence available concerning the therapies under analysis, particularly in the Italian context. Nonetheless, the survey of clinicians provided useful insights into the expenditures associated with implementing interventions for managing hyperparathyroidism. In conclusion, managing hyperparathyroidism involves considerable costs, and healthcare providers must consider the perspectives of both the SSN and the community when estimating the economic impact of interventions. The authors' analysis provides insights into the cost of different interventions, which could help healthcare providers make informed decisions when managing hyperparathyroidism.

PP138 Awareness Of Health Technology Assessment And Its Predictors Among Medical Students In Public Universities In Klang Valley, Malaysia

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Introduction: Lack of awareness has been recognized as one of the most important barriers in the implementation of health technology assessment (HTA) across numerous countries. Medical students have been identified as a vital target group to instill an awareness, basic knowledge, and positive attitude towards HTA from the beginning of their medical career. Presently, there was no study found conducted on HTA awareness in medical students in Malaysia. This study aims to determine the level of awareness of HTA, and its predictors among clinical year medical students in public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia.

Methods: A cross-sectional study using the stratified random sampling method was conducted among clinical year medical students in four public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia. The data on level of awareness of HTA and its associated factors were collected using a self-administered online questionnaire. Data were analyzed using IBM SPSS version 27 to determine the level of awareness of HTA, its associated factors and predictors.

Results: The total number of study participants was 323 and the response rate was 90 percent. The analysis showed that 69 percent of respondents had low level of awareness of HTA while 31 percent had high level of awareness of HTA. Factors associated with the level of awareness of HTA was attitude towards HTA ($p < 0.001$). The predictors of level of awareness of HTA were attitude towards HTA (Adjusted Odds Ratio (AOR) = 7.417, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 3.491, 15.758), peer interaction on HTA (AOR = 0.320, 95% CI: 0.115, 0.888), and previous training on HTA (AOR = 4.849, 95% CI: 1.096, 21.444).

Conclusions: The majority of clinical year medical students in public university have low awareness of HTA which can be predicted by the level of attitude, peer interaction and training of HTA. Therefore, it is important to increase awareness among these future medical practitioners to encourage evidence-based decision-making. Early exposure and introduction of HTA in the current university curriculum in collaboration with a local HTA agency can be recommended to increase awareness as well as to improve students' attitude towards HTA.