THU0652

COMPARATIVE COST PER RESPONSE FOR FOUR CLINICAL OUTCOMES OF TOCILIZUMAB MONOTHERAPY VERSUS ADA LIMMAB MONOTHERAPY IN A HEAD-TO-HEAD RANDOMISED DOUBLE-BLIND SUPERIORITY TRIAL (ADACTA) IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

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Background: The cost-effectiveness of different biologic therapies is an important component in guiding treatment decisions for patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

Objectives: To compare drug and adverse event costs and cost per successful clinical response with tocilizumab (TCZ) monotherapy vs adalimumab (ADA) monotherapy in patients with RA.

Methods: Patients in the ADACTA trial were randomised to either TCZ 8 mg/kg intravenously every 4 weeks or ADA 40 mg subcutaneously every 2 weeks as monotherapy for 24 weeks. Drug costs of $397.71/80 mg vial for TCZ (plus $136 administration cost per infusion) and $2220.62/40 mg for ADA were based on Wholesale Acquisition Costs (WAC) drug prices (July 2017). Outcomes included patient-level drug costs and cost of hospitalisation due to adverse events, and cost per response. Cost per response was calculated by dividing the mean drug plus administration cost by the proportion of patients achieving Disease Activity Score 28 joints (DAS28) <2.6 (remission) or American College of Rheumatology response criteria 20%/50%/70% (ACR20/ACR50/ACR70). The proportions of patients achieving DAS28 <2.6, ACR 20, ACR50 and ACR 70 were 39.9%, 65.0%, 47.2% and 32.5% for TCZ, respectively, and 10.5%, 49.4%, 27.8% and 17.9% for ADA, respectively. p < 0.0001, p < 0.0038, p > 0.0002, p > 0.0025 for TCZ vs ADA, respectively. Hospitals' costs were calculated using the daily hospital costs of $2433 (2017) and number of hospital days.

Results: Among the 163 patients treated with TCZ and 162 with ADA, mean total drug and administration costs per patient over 24 weeks were $16,674.74 and $23,357.63, respectively. Mean drug and administration costs were lower per each clinical response achieved with TCZ compared with ADA (DAS28 <2.6: $41,791 vs $22,454; ACR20: $25,653 vs $47,283; ACR50: $35,328 vs $84,020; ACR70: $51,307 vs $130,490). The total hospital days/costs were $32,775 856 for TCZ and $43,014 01 for ADA.

Conclusions: In this comprehensive comparative assessment, the cost to achieve all four clinical responses was lower for patients receiving TCZ than for ADA.

REFERENCE:

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THU0653

CHANGES IN RHEUMATOLOGY PROVISION AND PRACTICE IN A PUBLICLY-FUNDED SINGLE PAYER HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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Background: The global shortage of rheumatologists is an increasing concern. Statistics from physician surveys have projected changes in the workforce composition (ageing, feminization, and generational trends), which have implications for the workforce clinical activity. In order to adequately document the issues and the implications of these, in a population-based sample.

Objectives: To describe changes in the number, demographics and clinical activity of Ontario rheumatologists over the past decade.

Methods: We analysed administrative health data from 2000 to 2013 in Ontario, Canada, where all 13 million residents are covered by a publicly funded healthcare system. Rheumatologists, and their characteristics, were identified using a validated physician registry. We used fee-for-service billing claims to quantify clinical activity over time. Factors affecting clinical activity (including an ageing and female compared to 48% in 2013. During this time, the percentage of rheumatologists aged >60 + years increased (16% to 26%). The annual median (IQR) number of days of clinical service decreased from 220178–243 days in 2000 to 176–233 days in 2013. The percentage of rheumatologists with patient encounters on at least 209 days/year (an alternative FTE benchmark) showed a downward trend from 46% in 2000 to 22% in 2013. Male rheumatologists had more patient encounters each year, and a higher proportion of male rheumatologists worked >1 FTE. Average practice sizes declined over time (figure 1A), as did the median number of patient encounters per rheumatologist per year (figure 1B).

Abstract THU0653 – Figure 1A. A) Average Rheumatology Practice/Panel Size (Number of Unique Patients per Rheumatologist) According to FTE Classification; B) Average Number of Patient Encounters per Rheumatologist According to FTE Classification

Conclusions: Although there has been an increase in the number of rheumatologists, the per capita supply and access to rheumatologists have remained unchanged. We observed changing workforce demographics and declining clinical activity over time. Factors affecting clinical activity (including an ageing and feminization of the workforce, clinic saturation, increasing care complexity, models of care, greater demands for continuing medical education and research activity) warrants further study.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared


THU0654

ABSTRACT WITHDRAWN

THU0655

PATIENTS’ EVALUATION OF DUTCH HEALTH CARE IN SYSTEMIC SCLEROSIS: UNMET NEEDS AND PREFERENCES

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Background: Systemic sclerosis (SSc) is a chronic, heterogeneous autoimmune disease with a large impact on quality of life. To optimise health care, more insight is needed in patients’ experiences of the currently provided care.

Objectives: To identify unmet needs and preferences from a patient point of view regarding health care in the Netherlands

Methods: 2093 patients with SSc, from both regional (n=7) and university hospitals (n=6) in the Netherlands, were invited through their rheumatologist for an online, anonymous questionnaire comprising multiple choice, multiple response