Over the 5 years, the average total direct costs were €2575 (sd 8085) (figure 1). Drugs represented the main health expenditure item (>50% of total costs). However, the proportion attributable to osteoarthritis drugs accounted for less than 5% of total costs. The second item of expenditure was hospitalizations (hip and/or knee arthroplasty represents 7% of total average costs). Medical consultations were the third item of health expenditure (2.5% to 4% of total average costs). Phytotherapy represented 1% to 2% of total average costs. Costs increased with older age, female sex, retirement, a high BMI, a high Charlson index and poor health status.

Conclusions: These data are important results to describe the cost of care consumption of a sample of patients with symptomatic osteoarthritis of the hip and/or knee recruited to the general population in France. However, the specific cost attributable to osteoarthritis needs to be studied.

REFERENCES: