patients with at least 1 gout ICD 10/ICD 9 diagnosis code (N=539,802) and 90 days of continuous urate-lowering therapy within 1 year of diagnosis. Two cohorts of patients were categorized according to their sUA levels (≥ 1 test) after at least 90 days of gout therapy: sUA<6.0 mg/dL (controlled) and sUA ≥8.0 mg/dL (uncontrolled).

Results: The controlled gout group (sUA<6 mg/dL) included 5,473 patients and the uncontrolled gout group (sUA ≥8 mg/dL) had 1,358 patients. The two groups were comparable in terms of demographic features. Chronic kidney disease (CKD) was a common comorbidity overall in this gout population with higher prevalence in the uncontrolled gout cohort (49.4% of uncontrolled vs. 32.4% of controlled population; OR 2.04; 95% CI of 1.80 to 2.301, p<0.001). The most frequent hospitalization codes were similar between the uncontrolled and controlled patients with the exception of congestive heart and acute kidney failure. 20% of uncontrolled patients were hospitalized for congestive heart failure vs. 7% in controlled (OR 3.16, 95% CI: 2.674 to 3.739, p<0.001), and 20% of uncontrolled patients were hospitalized for acute kidney failure vs. 8% in controlled (OR 2.95, 95% CI: 2.497 to 3.480, p<0.001).

Conclusion: Gout patients frequently suffer from cardiovascular and renal diseases. This large retrospective analysis suggests that when divided based on uric acid levels attained, uncontrolled gout patients are more likely to suffer from CKD and also more likely to be hospitalized for acute renal failure than controlled gout patients. Whether hyperuricemia in uncontrolled gout causes the development of specific cardiovascular and renal comorbidities, or if specific cardiovascular and renal diseases lead to hyperuricemia and uncontrolled gout is not fully established.

REFERENCES

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