MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS BURDEN OF ILLNESS STUDY FOR TURKEY

Senturk A1, Altintas A2, Sagduyu Kocaman A3, Irkec C4, Yadim Kuscu D5, Agan Yildirim K6, Erapsoy M7, Kurtuncu M7, Terzi M8, Turkoglu R9, Yanik L10, Koc E10, Erdogan-Ciftci E10, Becit G10, Donmez S10, Safak K10, Gokalp T10, Erdogan A10

1Axel Health Solutions, Ankara, Turkey; 2Koc University Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey; 3Acibadem University Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey; 4Gazi University Faculty of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey; 5MedAmerican Medical Center, Istanbul, Turkey; 6Marmara University Pendik Research and Training Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey; 7Istanbul University Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul, Turkey; 819 Mayis University Faculty of Medicine, Samsun, Turkey; 9Haydarpasa Numune Research and Training Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey; 10Roche Istanbul, Turkey

OBJECTIVES

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a major public health problem in Turkey with high cost implications. The objective of this study is to analyze the economic burden of illness for MS in Turkey, both from the payer’s and society’s perspective.

METHODS

To be able to perform this study, total cost of MS was calculated by estimating direct and indirect costs. Direct costs estimations were performed in two phases. In the first phase, a Delphi Group, which consisted of 9 neurologists, was gathered to identify the direct costs of medicines, physician admissions, physiotherapy and diagnostic test requirements related with the disease. In the second phase of direct costs estimation, informations collected from Delphi Group, MS prevelance in Turkey data and Health Implementation Notification (SUT) price lists were utilized. For the indirect costs estimation, human capital approach has been preferred and Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) was chosen as source for labor statisctics and and population/age distribution data.

RESULTS

The direct costs including diagnosis, treatment of MS attacks and symptoms, for RRMS, PPMS, SPMS are found to be 705.745.333 TRY (~115.6 mEUR) in total for the payer. Medicines make only 61% of this direct burden of illness in MS. The indirect costs and economic losses caused by loss of productivity due to MS, are consisting of factors such as absenteeism, early retirement, early death, and cost of caregivers, which is a service required by most MS patients, and indirect costs sum up to 1.879.454.246 TRY (~307,8 mEUR) for the society.

CONCLUSION

In this study, the direct costs from payer’s (SGK) perspective and the indirect costs from society’s perspective are presented. To be able to perform more reliable indirect cost calculation, indirect cost data should be collected directly from MS patients. As this study indicates, MS disease and its treatment cause negative outcomes both on public health and economy. However, new innovative medicines for MS treatment are expected to reduce the negative effects of MS with increased cure rates and reduced relapse.

This study was sponsored by Roche Turkey