Background

- In 2012, the immunosuppressant drug class metrics with Prime Therapeutics (PT) in million member commercial benefit

- BigRx expenditures as a percent of all pharmacy benefit expenditures.

- - generic utilization was 60 percent, an increase from 55 percent in 2011, an increase from 60 percent in 2012, and 75 percent on branded and 25 percent on generics, and the immunosuppressant calcineurin inhibitors (cyclosporine or tacrolimus) were the largest category.

- - immunosuppressant waste associated with 90-day supply medications, and potential to improve adherence.

- - 11 million member commercial book of life plan members classified in the "other diagnosis" category, in 4,340 (76.1%) members followed by immune disease (76.1%), and the prevalence of cyclosporine or tacrolimus was defined as the denominator had no medical claims to determine a diagnosis or the diagnoses were not previously listed and 2) members with no transcription errors and 3) members with no medical diagnoses including transplant-associated immunosuppressant therapy generally more than $100 per month supply.

Methods

- - pharmacy and medical claims data from eight Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans with approximately nine million members commercially insured.

- - calculated relative to the pharmacy benefit cost of therapy for immunosuppressant discontinuation.

- - The chi-square test.

- - patients may switch between calcineurin agents because of intolerance or efficacy issues.

- - 929 days (standard deviation 259 days). Dosing switch between calcineurin inhibitors could result in medication wastage.

Objective & Purpose

- - To examine and quantify the presence of immunosuppressant waste associated with the channel, reasons, and potential to improve adherence.

- - During the first half of 2011, 5,703 (0.06%) of nine million members were identified as calcineurin inhibitor discontinuation.

- - Among calcineurin inhibitor utilizers, a medical claim with the diagnosis of organ or tissue transplantation was found in slightly more than three of four members. Potential use of a calcineurin inhibitor without a formal and Drug Administration (FDA) investigation may be occurring up to 15 percentage points of members either had no medical claims to determine a diagnosis or the claims were not the 90-day period were defined as Retail 30 or Mail 90. Defined as Retail 30 = all claims filled on Days 1-29, Mail 90 = claims filled on Days 30-89, and quantity dispensed/DS > 3).

- - The current study did not include waste associated with calcineurin inhibitors discontinuation.

- - All calcineurin inhibitor utilizers were analyzed, linking the analysis to new initiators may have resulted in a greater waste prevalence as new initiators are more likely to experience drug changes.

- - 43,224 claims (88.7%) followed by Retail 90 with 2,826 (5.8%) and Mail 90 with 2,680 (5.5%). Waste due to overlapping cyclosporine and tacrolimus was defined as the


- - Ferreira, V. “Prime Therapeutics LLC internal data, 2013.”

- - Prime Therapeutics LLC. 2014 Corporate Center Drive, Engle, MN, 55121.


Limitations

- - Administrative pharmacy and medical claims data have the potential for miscoding and include assumptions of member actual medication use and are not.

- - Data are limited to commercial populations in the Central and Southern Region of the United States to be generalizable to Medicare or Medicaid populations or other geographic regions.

- - This analysis was limited to waste associated with switching between calcineurin inhibitors drugs. Waste may also occur as a result of nal to new initiators may have resulted in a greater waste prevalence as new initiators are more likely to experience drug changes.

Conclusions

- - Immunosuppressant calcineurin inhibitors (cyclosporine or tacrolimus) use was time to prevalence of six per 10,000 members within this population of nine million commercially insured members.

- - Among calcineurin inhibitor utilizers, a medical claim with the diagnosis of organ or tissue transplantation was found in slightly more than three of four members. Potential use of a calcineurin inhibitor without a formal and Drug Administration (FDA) investigation may be occurring up to 15 percentage points of members either had no medical claims to determine a diagnosis or the claims were not the 90-day period were defined as Retail 30 or Mail 90. Defined as Retail 30 = all claims filled on Days 1-29, Mail 90 = claims filled on Days 30-89, and quantity dispensed/DS > 3).

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References