Statin Waste Associated with 30-Day Supplies Compared to 30-Day Supplies

**Objective**

- To quantify and compare statin waste costs via dispensing channels: retail 30-day (30 DS), retail 90-day (90 DS), and mail 90-day (90 DS).

**Methods**

- **Members continuously resided from 2Q2008 to 2Q2010 with at least one statin claim.**
- **Statin claims were identified from a 2.2 million member population.**
- **In order to minimize any potential confounding factors.**
- **Among statin utilizers followed for one year, statin claims filled via 90 DS were associated with significantly more waste than 30 DS.** However, the statin waste amount difference was modest at less than three days over one year.
- **Despite a greater amount of waste associated with 90 DS, the cost analysis showed pharmacy expenditures (including dispensing and drug waste) were approximately $0.50 per member utilizing 90 DS, with 30 DS being the least expensive option.**
- **Our results were similar to prior studies which found more waste associated with 90 DS.**
- **Further research is needed to understand these findings.**

**Table 4:** Comparison of Cost per Claim for each dispensing channel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dispensing Channel</th>
<th>Cost per Claim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retail 30 DS</td>
<td>$1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail 90 DS</td>
<td>$3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail 90 DS</td>
<td>$1.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusions**

- **Further research is needed to validate these findings.** Waste investigation in other drug classes is necessary.

**References**

3. San Diego Veterans Affairs (VA) (1999 data) surveyed members and analyzed pharmacy claims (acquisition cost ≤ $1.50 per day) with a focus on outpatient statin claims instead of one 90 DS claim and found a $6.17 savings due to increased adherence.
4. 31.6% of the 3,586 claims analyzed, 30-day and 90-day claims comprised 5% or 90% of all pharmacy expenditures. Antihyperlipidemics accounted for 8% of all pharmacy expenditures with a DS of 90 days or greater. Antihyperlipidemic claims are associated with a DS of 90 days or greater. Antihyperlipidemias comprised greater than 75% of claims.1

**Background**

- **Antihyperlipidemias accounted for 8% of all pharmacy expenditures during 2010 for Prime’s 9 million commercially insured members.** The total annual cost for antihyperlipidemic medications per member was $1,800 with members costing more than 75% of claims.1
- **Our results were similar to prior studies which found more waste associated with 90 DS.** Waste investigation in other drug classes is necessary. Further research is needed to validate these findings. Waste investigation in other drug classes is necessary.