



Cost analysis of therapy for patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) in Poland

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Abstract:

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of the central nervous system in which dissipated demyelination lesions develop. The currently available pharmacotherapy and rehabilitation for this disease aims to preserve the patients' physical abilities and prevent disease progression and nervous system damage. The study evaluated the direct and indirect costs associated with two different treatment regimens for multiple sclerosis diagnosed patients by comparing two groups of 60 subjects (Group A – patients receiving continuous interferon therapy (Betaferon) and steroids during relapses, and Group B – patients receiving steroid-only (Solu-Medrol, Metypred) treatment). The study was conducted over two years (2004–2005). The pharmacotherapy costs for MS patients were: PLN 4,555,360.68 (1,171,043.88€) total for Group A and PLN 75,922.68 (19,517.40€) per patient, and PLN 72,582.00 (18,658.61€) total for Group B and PLN 1,209.70 (310.98€) per patient. Total direct and indirect costs for Group A and Group B amounted to PLN 5,595,968.58 (1,438,552.33€) and PLN 1,655,658.30 (425,619.10€), respectively.

Key words:

multiple sclerosis, cost analysis, interferon, methylprednisolone
