

160 mph. The patient was in a coma for more than nine weeks, coded three times, and was resuscitated each time. Per imaging, the patient suffered subarachnoid hemorrhage to the right outer parietal and left front parietal lobes. The patient developed chronic pain from the extensive burns and has been on opioids for many years until he gradually tapered himself off about six years ago. For the last couple of years, the patient has experienced cognitive decline associated with disorientation and memory deficit. The patient has been perseverative on his wife's trip two years ago during which the patient believed that she had an affair with one of their mutual acquaintances. The patient denied visual or auditory hallucinations and continued to express his love and affection toward his wife. Although his wife has continually provided reassurance, and multiple family members confirmed her faithfulness, the patient had minimal insight into his delusion and expressed disappointment in loss of sexual intimacy between him and his wife. The patient has been prescribed duloxetine 60mg and trazodone 150mg, and his mood, anxiety, and sleep have been stable. The patient has also started taking pimozide 1mg nightly since beginning of this year with good response.

Discussion. The DSM estimates the prevalence of DDJT to be less than 1%. At least a third of cases show neurological basis involving frontal lobe dysfunction associated with strokes, Parkinson's disease, brain trauma and tumors, neurodegenerative disorder, encephalitis, multiple sclerosis, and even normal pressure hydrocephalus. Association with alcohol, amphetamine, cocaine, and dopamine therapy (pergolide, ropinirole, levodopa, amantadine, and pramipexole) were reported. Finally, DDJT is known to be a risk factor of violent crimes including homicide. Treatment with pimozide shows the strongest evidence, and most patients show improvement with any antipsychotic medication along with CBT. Continued research and further clinical trials are warranted for DDJT considering patients' positive response to interventions, and because DDJT can become a dangerous condition in forensic situations.

Economic Burden of Dementia Related Psychosis Among Medicare Beneficiaries: A State-Transition Markov Analysis of Total Annual Direct Costs

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Abstract

Study Objective. Dementia related psychosis (DRP), characterized by debilitating symptoms such as hallucinations and delusions, is estimated to affect 2.4M people with dementia in the US. Patients with DRP may have twice the rate of dementia progression compared to patients with no DRP. Given that dementia disproportionately impacts the elderly, a comprehensive cost-of-illness analysis may add to the current understanding of the overall economic burden of DRP prevalence. The objective of this study was to estimate the cost of DRP from a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) perspective.

Methods. A five state-transition Markov analysis, adapted from Green et al, was conducted to assess the annual direct DRP cost burden to CMS. Patients entering the model were allowed to transition between three at-home health-states (mild dementia plus psychosis, moderate dementia plus psychosis, severe dementia plus psychosis), one long-term care/nursing home (LTC/NH) stay, or death (absorbent health state) at any given time. Since the model accommodates tunnel health-states based on dementia, psychosis and functioning severity levels, patients stayed in the same health-state or transitioned to a more severe health-state or progressed to death (i.e., absorbent health-state) between each 30-day cycle. Prevalence, disease-severity, and state-transition probability estimates were derived from literature while direct costs of DRP were derived from a Medicare claims analysis. Costs were discounted at 3%. Model robustness was tested to check if results were sensitive to changes in inputs and assumptions.

Results. Of the estimated 61.5M Medicare beneficiaries, about 6.87M may suffer from dementia. In the base-case scenario, an estimated total of 2.2M prevalent DRP patients enter the model based on dementia severity into one of the 4 non-absorbent health-states: three at-home (10% mild, 60% moderate, and 10% severe) and one LTC-NH (10%). Total Medicare annual direct DRP costs are estimated to be approximately \$119.98B (\$113.96B-\$125.96B) and about \$54K PPPY (Per-Patient-Per-Year) costs (2019 USD). NH costs and patient volume at higher severity levels are significant cost drivers. Sensitivity analysis results show that the model is sensitive to disease severity and disease progression.

Conclusions. These results suggest that DRP imposes a significant direct cost burden despite its low prevalence. In this analysis, per-patient per year (PPPY) cost of DRP prevalence was estimated to be slightly higher than incident PPPY DRP costs. These differences may be attributed to the number of patients at higher severity levels and the time spent in a severe health state as well as cost of LTC/NH stays. Especially given the ageing population in the US, DRP could become an increasing public health concern. There is a significant need for education and awareness about DRP cost burden.

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