

## INTRODUCTION:

Immunotherapies are a relatively new innovative class of drug that have garnered excitement in the fight against cancer. In 2011, the immunotherapy drug, ipilimumab, was approved. Since then, four additional drugs have gained approval. This analysis evaluates the initial reception of immunotherapies by Health Technology Assessment (HTA) agencies.

## METHODS:

The Context Matters Data Model was used to evaluate the regulatory and HTA agency decisions surrounding the five approved immunotherapies through November 2016: atezolizumab, elotuzumab, ipilimumab, nivolumab, and pembrolizumab. Thirty-three labels from Australia, Canada, Europe, and the United States, and ninety-two assessments from Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco (AIFA), Gemeinsamer Bundesausschuss (Federal Joint Committee; G-BA), Haute Autorité de Santé (French National Authority for Health; HAS), Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER), Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG), National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC), pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review (pCODR), and Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) were found. Using a sample t-test and a chi-squared test, reimbursement agencies' decisions were evaluated, and the clinical and economic factors that went into these decisions were examined.

## RESULTS:

Of the evaluated reviews: sixty-four were for melanoma indications, fourteen were for non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) indications, and seven were for kidney cancer indications. Many of the reviews did not reach any decision, but 75 percent of HTA decisions ( $n = 72$ ;  $p = .0000$ ) reached were positive. Elotuzumab, approved for multiple myeloma, received a positive decision from G-BA and a negative one from SMC. There was an association between different disease conditions or drugs and the rate of positive decisions.

For reviews that had clinical reasons for their decisions, 72.9 percent ( $n = 59$ ;  $p = .0000$ ) had positive clinical rationales that were associated with positive decisions

( $p = .000$ ). Economic rationales for decisions were more mixed, with only 48.4 percent ( $n = 31$ ;  $p = .0000$ ) receiving positive decisions. Positive economic evaluations were also associated with positive decisions ( $p = .000$ ). Atezolizumab, approved only in the United States at the time of this writing, has yet to be reviewed by any of the HTA agencies.

## CONCLUSIONS:

Immunotherapies are promising new options for the treatment of cancer. Thus far, reception by HTA agencies has generally been positive.

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## VP159 Strengthening Primary Health Care In Nigeria By Patient Involvement

### AUTHORS:

Sylvester Adeyemi ([adeyemisylvester1@gmail.com](mailto:adeyemisylvester1@gmail.com)),  
Aniekan Ekpenyong

### INTRODUCTION:

The Health system in Nigeria is structured into three tiers which include tertiary health care, secondary health care and primary health care (PHC). The latter forms the grassroots system of delivering basic health services to communities in both rural and urban centers. However PHC in Nigeria have been affected by poor service delivery. This has resulted in underuse of PHC due to the acceptance and utilization of health services delivered through this system. This research seek to bridge the gap of inequality, reaffirm that implementing PHC is a human right/duty and fosters patient and consumer involvement for economic, social and environmental sustainability of PHC.

### METHODS:

A qualitative method of research was adopted using a participatory research model. The relative data was sourced secondarily from recent findings (July 2015) carried out in seventy-three primary health centers across Anambra State, Benue State, Kaduna State,

Plateau State and Federal Capital Territory (FCT) of Nigeria. Issues that were examined included: client perspective and community involvement, status of available services, utilization and service delivery, and infrastructure and human resource capacities. The respondent of 294 client/service user population from interview were recorded and analyzed.

### RESULTS:

The assessment showed client dissatisfaction to services being provided. In most centers, National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) requirements like availability of basic functional equipment, well trained health workers, patient record system, and access to water and sanitation were not met. Most of the facilities visited reported to be disconnected from the health system due to supportive supervision.

### CONCLUSIONS:

Conclusively, the interest of the underserved Nigerian could be advocated for through local committees of consumer organizations. Their involvement will have an impact in PHC evaluation, policy making, and implementation of action plans aimed at improving PHC services.

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## VP161 Identification Of Needs Of Pigmented Villonodular Synovitis Patients Using Online Bulletin Board

### AUTHORS:

Nigel Cook ([nigel.cook@novartis.com](mailto:nigel.cook@novartis.com)), Kyle Landskroner, Susann Walda, Olivia Weiss, Vikrant Pallapotu

### INTRODUCTION:

Pigmented villonodular synovitis (PVNS) is a very rare, benign proliferative tumor affecting the inner lining of synovial joints and tendon sheets. Information on treatment needs of PVNS patients to inform drug

development is currently scarce, hence we conducted qualitative research with patients using an online bulletin board (OBB) methodology to generate insights on objective and emotional aspects related to the medical journey and living with this disease.

### METHODS:

OBB is an asynchronous, online qualitative market research tool that allows participants to comprehensively answer pre-defined questions in a comprehensive manner. Patients were recruited via physician referral and underwent screening questions to ensure eligibility for the study and willingness to participate. The discussion was moderated, structured, and allowed open answers and in response to other participants posts. Analysis was conducted using a combination of different qualitative analytical tools.

### RESULTS:

The patient OBB ran for 4 days with eleven participants (n = 3 Canada, n = 4 United Kingdom, n = 4 United States of America) aged 28–57 years, suffering from PVNS for 2–27 years. The key patient insights were: (i) pain is the primary factor, constituting a significant emotional and psychological burden; (ii) surgery (arthroscopy) does not get rid of PVNS, relapse rate was high in these patients; and (iii) PVNS has a big financial impact on patients, their families, and the healthcare system, due in particular to time off work/lost wages (patient & caretaker), for healthcare system it is repeat costs for surgeries/hospital stays plus other medical expenses. We also identified orthopedic specialists/surgeons are the physicians who predominantly manage PVNS at this point, as surgery is the only option.

### CONCLUSIONS:

This study shows the suitability of the OBB for uncovering qualitative patient insights to inform decision making and strategy in early pharmaceutical drug development. OBB lends itself very well to uncovering patient insights which might not be revealed in focus group or telephone interviews, particularly in a rare disease like this. PVNS patients are in need of a medical drug treatment which can reduce