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Conference Abstract

Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of care management programs for the indications Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis - Results of an empirical survey of the German statutory health insurance

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Abstract:

Introduction / Background: Against the background of demographic trends and an increasing prevalence of age-associated diseases, there is a raising importance of care programs for patients with Alzheimer's disease in public health systems. According to WHO the number of people living with dementia worldwide in 2010 is estimated at 35.6 million and is projected to nearly double every 20 years, to 65.7 million in 2030 [1]. Currently 1.2 million people with dementia are living in Germany and the incidence amounts 250,000 new cases every year [2]. The care management of multiple sclerosis is characterized by a multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral treatment. Globally, the median estimated prevalence of MS is 30 per 100 000 population [3]. There are approximately 120,000 to 180,000 people with MS living in Germany [4]. Both indications are characterized by a high level of care and significant consumption of resources leading to a great economic importance.

Aim of this survey is to identify evaluations concerning the effectiveness and / or cost-effectiveness of care management programs for the indications of Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis financing by the statutory health insurances. This survey was initiated because of the absence of a systematic overview of German care management programs for the inspected indications. Furthermore a survey of the statutory German health insurance presents an appropriate method for identification of all programs and their evaluations.

Theory and Methods: Based on an empirical qualitative survey of 40 statutory German health insurances, the care management programs for the indications of Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis were established in December 2012. The questionnaire survey focuses on the existence and the content of care management programs and evaluations of their effectiveness and / or cost-effectiveness. The selection of the health insurances included in this investigation based on an analyzes of the number of insured population. The 40 largest of the totality of 144 German statutory health insurances were selected. The results of the survey will be evaluated anonymously.

Results (work in progress): The empirical survey is currently being conducted. The return of survey documents is expected by the end of February 2013. The survey results were analyzed using a qualitative data analysis.

Conclusions and Discussion: Based on the results of the standardized questionnaire of the german statutory health insurances the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of care programs for the indications of Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis were evaluated. The analysis of existing evaluations constitutes a basis for the development of efficient care management programs for the indications of Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis.

Keywords

alzheimer's disease, multiple sclerosis, cost-effectiveness, effectiveness, care management, managed care

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