

1. ABSTRACT

Background: This study is primarily aimed at describing migraine illnesses, the existing patient care algorithm with this diagnosis and to estimate the direct costs of treatment of migraine from the point of view of the health care system in the Czech Republic. In the theoretical part, the basic concepts and procedures of health economics and the health technologies assessment are examined, especially the cost-of-illness of the analysis that is conducted in the practical part, namely just on the illness of migraine.

Methods: The cost of drugs used to treat migraine is determined using FNHK (Fakultni nemocnice Hradec Kralove) prescription data. Further, using the data on health care (both ambulatory and inpatient care), these services are being appraised and this way the cost of treatment of a patient with the disease estimated from the point of view of the health system in the Czech Republic.

Results: The average annual cost of treatment of one patient with episodic migraine was assessed at CZK 1,182 for outpatient care, CZK 786 for hospitalization and CZK 2,707 for medication. For chronic migraines, the average cost is higher and estimated at CZK 3,321 for outpatient care, CZK 2,745 for hospitalization and CZK 7,415 for medication.

Conclusions: The total direct annual cost of the patient was estimated at CZK 4,676 (€ 181) in the interval of € 3,058 (€ 118) - € 7,268 (€ 281) per patient with an episodic migraine and € 13,481 (€ 521) - 6 827 CZK (264 €) - 18 939 CZK (732 €). The direct cost of migraine treatment is relatively low in terms of the overall burden of illness in terms of its impact on quality of life, work and social disability, and productivity losses. Migraine also appears to be a significantly under-diagnosed and under-treated disease in population.

Key words: migraine, pharmacoeconomics, health economics, cost-of-illness