



Expenditures of the Unified Health System on complicated migraine treatment: An analysis of the last fifteen years

Rayndrick Kelryn Assis Lima; Raynrich Kevin Assis Lima; Isabela Cacau Sousa Santos; Pedro Roa Appio; Eduarda Maia Lima; Carolina Helen Soares de Macêdo; Helvécio Neves Feitosa Filho; Nithyananda Araújo Furtado; Caio Kacem Carate

Universidade de Fortaleza, Fortaleza - CE - Brazil.

Categoria: Epidemiologia, Desfechos e Impacto das Cefaleias

Introduction

Complicated migraine (CM) represents a severe variant of migraine characterized by intense and focal symptoms that persist for more than 24 hours. These symptoms often involve visual disturbances such as blurriness, scotomas, and hemianopsia, along with possible motor and sensory alterations. It is important to note that these symptoms can occur independently of the usual pain manifestation. The severity and duration of complicated migraine are related to vasoconstriction phenomena, and the condition may also be associated with states of hypercoagulability and vasospasm, increasing the risk of thromboembolic and ischemic events. This condition has the potential to significantly compromise the patient's quality of life, daily activities, and emotional well-being. Given this scenario, as it is a chronic condition with longitudinal treatment, it becomes imperative to analyze the costs associated with CM within the scope of the Unified Health System (SUS). It is also crucial to assess the distribution of these financial resources to different regions of Brazil, as there is a high potential for public healthcare spending on this condition.

Objective

To analyze the impact on expenditures over fifteen years on complicated migraine treatment within the Unified Health System.

Methods

This is a descriptive quantitative study on the expenditures of the Unified Health System on complicated migraine treatment in the Brazilian macroregions based on data obtained from DATASUS from January 2008 to July 2023.

Results

In the Northern region, there was a peak in expenditures (PE) in August 2017, with a standard deviation (SD) of approximately R\$ 2,537, an average of R\$ 4,731, and an overall increasing trend (IT); in the Northeast, there was a PE in August 2019, with an SD of R\$ 14,455, an average of R\$ 24,822, and an IT; in the Southeast, there was a PE in March 2023, with an SD of approximately R\$ 15,927, an average of R\$ 51,894, and an IT; in the South, there was a PE in January 2020, with an SD of 21,253.4, an average of R\$ 43,144, and an IT; in the Midwest, there was a PE in October 2021, with an SD of 3,373, an average of approximately R\$ 5,869, and an IT. The city of São Paulo concentrated the highest amount of expenditures, accumulating R\$ 3,182,659 (13.0%) of the country's expenditures during the analyzed period.

Conclusion

Therefore, it can be stated that during the period from January 2008 to July 2023, there is a considerable average cost for migraine treatment under SUS, with variations between states. The Northern and Midwest regions have lower overall average spending compared to the Northeast, South, and Southeast regions, which have a higher population. Regarding the analysis of the city of São Paulo, it had a per capita expenditure of 0.277% throughout the analyzed period. In light of the above, this study proves to be relevant for understanding the costs of the aforementioned condition, which has a high prevalence in Brazil, and consequently, it is of fundamental importance for improving the planning of the distribution of financial resources in each region of the country and in healthcare project measures, aiming for effective advancements in investments in this area.

Keywords: Headache; Unified Health System; Public Healthcare; Quality Of Life.