

Cost Analysis of a Pharmacist-Dose Adjusted Synagis® Program at a Hospital-Owned Home Infusion Pharmacy

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BACKGROUND

- Synagis® (Palivizumab) is a monoclonal antibody indicated for prematurely-born infants to protect them from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infections
- Synagis® is dosed according to a weight-based scale each month throughout the RSV season. Newborn infants can receive up to five total doses of this medication
- Patients are referred to our institution from their hospital providers where several members of the home infusion interdisciplinary team are tasked with continuing the care for each patient
- Updated weights are provided by nurses who visit the patient in their homes.
- Pharmacists review patients' weights and calculate doses based on this information
- Pharmacy technician coordinators play a key role in this process and spend a significant amount of time organizing key stakeholders – pharmacists, nurses, insurance payors, and medication delivery services
- Pharmacy technician coordinators ensure each dose of Synagis® obtains prior authorization approval from patients' insurance providers before the medication can be administered by the nurse

OBJECTIVES

Primary Objective

- Determine the financial impact of this organization's Synagis® program to understand the benefits and risks of expanding this service

Primary Outcome

- Quantify revenues generated and costs incurred surrounding several factors of this organization's Synagis® program

Secondary Outcome

- Evaluate and compare previous year's financial data to understand opportunities this organization could take advantage of

METHODS

Methods

- Single-site, health-system owned home infusion pharmacy
- Financial data gathered from key stakeholders:
 - Pharmacists
 - Resource nurses
 - Technician coordinators
 - Intake team

Data Analysis

- Descriptive statistics will be used to collect means, medians and percent changes for yearly financial analysis

COST ANALYSIS



Figure 1. Several factors impact the cost of this health-system owned home infusion pharmacy's Synagis® program. To the left, there are many considerations that go into the overall cost of this pharmacist-dose adjusted program.

NEXT STEPS

Quantify costs of Synagis® program

- HR and Payroll stakeholders

Review insurance claims data

- Determine program revenue

Compare financial data from previous years

- Obtain program trends over time

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

-  Recommend expansion or restriction of program based on final results
-  Further optimize workflow and cost saving measures to limit waste
-  Expand cost analyses for different pharmacy services offered by this institution

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