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COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF PHARMACOLOGIC TREATMENT OF FAMILIAL HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIA

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Abstract

Familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) is a common genetic disorder and getting more attention nowadays. Patients with FH are experiencing a life time burden of increased low density lipoprotein cholesterol and elevated cardiovascular risk. To alleviate these burden, new therapies have been developed for the treatment of familial hypercholesterolemia. Assessing the clinical efficacy and effectiveness of new therapies is important in determining the role of new intervention. However, in general, new interventions are effective at a higher cost. Thus, economic evaluation of new intervention is getting more attention, which assesses whether the added benefit of a certain intervention is worth the added cost of that intervention. Healthcare costs are rapidly increasing and we need to understand how limited healthcare resources (budget) can be used most efficiently. The concept and types of economic evaluation will be introduced followed by an empirical cost-effectiveness analysis (cost-utility analysis) of a new treatment of familial hypercholesterolemia.

Keywords Economic Evaluation, Cost-Effectiveness Analysis, Cost-Utility Analysis, Familial Hypercholesterolemia

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