

Health-related outcomes and economic burden in Japan: focus on inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, and depression

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This series presents articles using data collected from the National Health and Wellness Survey¹ in Japan to assess the burden of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), multiple sclerosis (MS), and depression using a common methodology involving cases vs controls and patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs). This series covers a breadth of comorbidity types, from gastrointestinal (IBD) to neurological (MS) to mental health (depression) domains, thus allowing the reader to appreciate the extent of each of these burdens both individually and in the broader context of other disease areas. Moreover, it helps shed light on these burdens across a variety of outcomes (including health-related quality of life, productivity impairment, resource utilization, and monetary costs attributed to work impairment and resource utilization), thus contributing to the limited current data published on Japanese patients' burden due to these conditions. The database is a population-based, self-reported online survey recruiting respondents from opt-in online panels. The survey collects demographic information, health characteristics, and PROMs across respondents with a wide range of disease conditions.

While the three articles employ a common data source and share PROMs, there are some differences of note. The MS article, for example, assesses the burden of MS in Japan in relation to the broader context of the corresponding burdens in the United States and in five countries of the European Union (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom). The depression article looks not only at the burden of diagnosed depression, but also at undiagnosed depression, which helps reveal a "hidden burden" that can be more readily identified via PROMs than via other data collection methods.

In summary, this thematic series presents three patient-reported outcome studies evaluating burden of illness in Japan within distinct conditions, thus helping assess unmet needs for improved patient care and treatment.

Disclosure

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Reference

1. Kantar Health. National Health and Wellness Survey. Patient-Reported Healthcare Insights. New York: Kantar Health. Available from: <http://www.kantarhealth.com/docs/datasheets/kh-national-health-and-wellness-survey.pdf>. Accessed July 25, 2018.

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