

Onco@Home: Comparing the Costs, Revenues, and Patient Experience of Cancer Treatment at Home with the Standard of Care

Authors : Sarah Misplon, Wim Marneffe, Johan Helling, Jana Missiaen, Inge Decock, Dries Myny, Steve Lervant, Koen Vaneygen

Abstract : The aim of this study was twofold. First, we investigated whether the current funding from the national health insurance (NHI) of home hospitalization (HH) for oncological patients is sufficient in Belgium. Second, we compared patient's experiences and preferences of HH to the standard of care (SOC). Two HH models were examined in three Belgian hospitals and three home nursing organizations. In a first HH model, the blood draw and monitoring prior to intravenous therapy were performed by a trained home nurse at the patient's home the day before the visit to the day hospital. In a second HH model, the administration of two subcutaneous treatments was partly provided at home instead of in the hospital. Therefore, we conducted (1) a bottom-up micro-costing study to compare the costs and revenues for the providers (hospitals and home care organizations), and (2) a cross-sectional survey to compare patient's experiences and preferences of the SOC group and the HH group. Our results show that HH patients prefer HH and none of them wanted to return to SOC, although the satisfaction of patients was not significantly different between the two categories. At the same time, we find that costs associated to HH are higher overall. Comparing revenues with costs, we conclude that the current funding from NHI of HH for oncological patients is insufficient.

Keywords : cost analysis, health insurance, preference, home hospitalization

Conference Title : ICHPT 2022 : International Conference on Health Policy and Technology

Conference Location : Rome, Italy

Conference Dates : October 13-14, 2022