

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OBESITY AND OVERWEIGHT IN THE INFLIXIMAB TREATMENT IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL

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Background: Overweight and obesity lead to increased healthcare costs for the high prevalence of associated diseases. There are drugs of high economic impact that are dosed by weight. Infliximab is a drug whose dosage is as indicated, 3mg/kg (Rheumatoid Arthritis) or 5mg/kg (other indications as Crohn Disease, Ulcerative Colitis, Psoriasis, Ankylosing Spondylitis and off labels uses).

Purpose: Determine the prevalence of overweight and obesity in patients treated with infliximab . Calculate the annual increase in treatment costs as a result of the prevalence of overweight and obesity.

Material and Methods: Retrospective cross-sectional study. Data on sex, age, diagnosis, prescribed dose and dispensations between January-December 2014, made were collected. The dosage was established as indicated in European Public Assessment Report (EPAR) for Remicade® (prescribed dose/dose indication (3 or 5 mg /kg) = weight), from that premise, the weight of each patient was calculated. The estimated size was collected from the Spanish National Statistics Institute, according to sex and age. The estimated body mass index (BMI) was calculated. The cost of treatment per dose naturally weighted, cost of treatment with recommended weight per dose were calculated, the difference between both costs and the average percentage increase was calculated. Each incremental cost per patient was multiplied by the number of dispensations to meet the total additional cost for overweight or obesity treatment with Infliximab in 2014. The recommended weight was maintained that weight BMI 24,9. Data were analyzed using the SPSS v.20 data processor.

	BMI		
	NORMAL WEIGHT	OVERWEIGHT	OBESITY
	Mean	Mean	Mean
COSTS (EUR)	1084,56	1526,44	1932,12

Table 1. Treatment costs by BMI

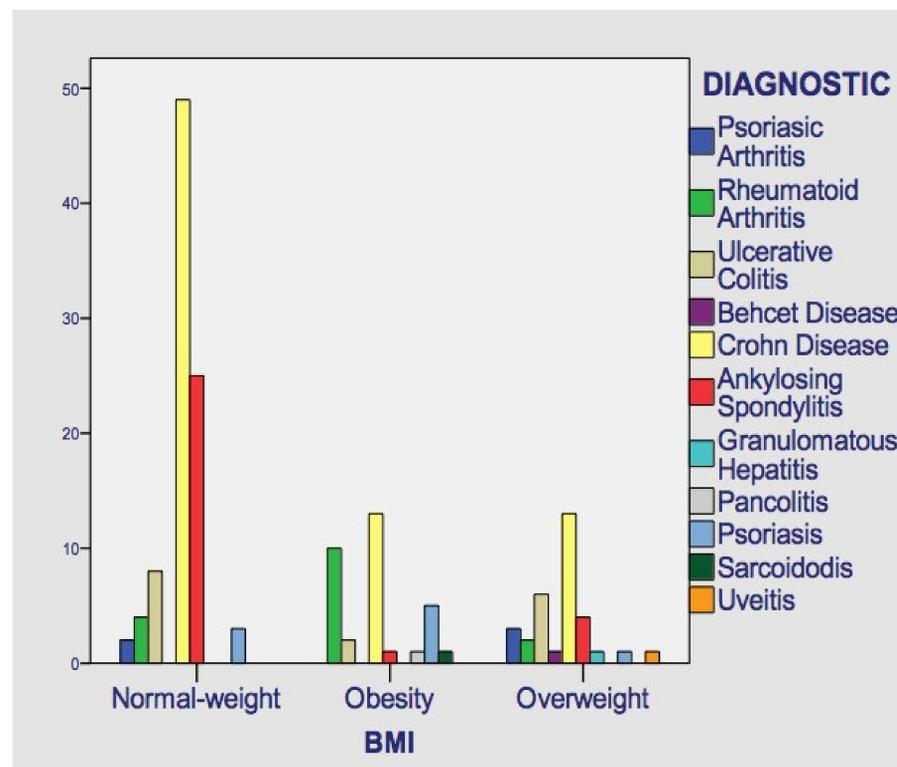


Figure 1. Diagnostic and BMI

Results : A total of 156 patients were enrolled, 58% were men. The average age was 47 years. 41,6% of the sample had a BMI>25. The 20.5% were overweightness and 21,1 % were obese. In patients with overweight or obesity, treatment costs increased by 27.29 % on average. The 2014 annual additional cost associated with overweight and obesity treatment with infliximab was 121,242.18 euros.

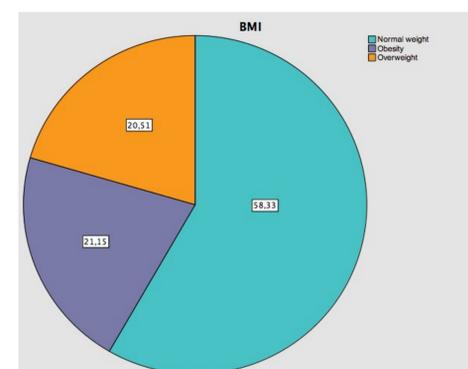


Figure 2. BMI Percentage

Conclusion: The prevalence of overweight and obesity among patients treated with Infliximab was close to 45%; this increases the cost of treatment by more than 25% of the total cost of treatment. Overweight and obesity could be regarded as an economic impact factor for drugs which are dosed by weight. The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee must establish the most cost efficient drug by BMI for different indications studied and design a protocol.