

COST MINIMIZATION STUDY: SWITCH VIAL TO PEN IN GERIATRICS

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BACKGROUND

Insulin glargine (original drug and biosimilar) is on the market in vial or pen presentations with different costs. The biosimilar drug is less expensive than original drug.

PURPOSE

- ✓ Evaluate the incremental cost for changing insulin glargine (IG) vial by (original and biosimilar IG) pen over a 1 year period
- ✓ Evaluate the nurses implementation acceptability in geriatric wards.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Data was retrospectively collected over a one-year period in Geriatrics:

- ✓ IG prescription (number of UI per patient and IG vial consumption)
- ✓ Costs

Nurses answered a survey in each geriatric ward to make an inventory of practices and to assess the acceptability of replacing vials with pens.

Comparison of **security** and **ease of use** of vial and pen with scale (0 to 10)

Bad possibility 0 _____ 5 _____ 10 Best possibility

RESULTS

- ✓ 353 patient were included with 108 vials prescription

Equivalent number and price of vials prescription in pen



INSULIN PRESENTATION	PRICE/patient during time of study
IG vial	7,65€
IG pen	2,19€
IG pen biosimilar	0,17€

On 18 responses to the survey, 6 nurses do not want to use the pens for various reasons:

- « too many pens in the ward »
- « waste »
- « no visibility on the quantity injected »

- ✓ The pens have a best security assessment (mean score difference =1.94, p=0.014) and ease of use assessment (mean score difference =3.05, p=0.007) than vials.
- ✓ 55% of nurses think by mistake than pen is more expensive than vial.

CONCLUSION

This study showed:

- ✓ Using IG pens rather than vials and biosimilar prescription would be cost saving.
- ✓ Nurses are ready to accept replacing vials with pens.

