The effectiveness of second generation antipsychotics (SGA) has been shown to be equivalent to the first-generation antipsychotics (FGA), with different side effect profiles.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS**

- One year **retrospective observational study** at a Spanish university general hospital.
- Identification of **outpatients under treatment with antipsychotics** during 2021.
- **FGA and SGA data consumption** was obtained from Microstrategy® database.

**RESULTS**

- **16,967 patients under treatment with antipsychotics (2021)**
- The use of LAI was **6.66% (3.43% and 6.98% among FGA and SGA, respectively)**. The **95.31% total LAI prescriptions were SGA**.

- The use of LAI at hospital was found to be lower than in other European countries (15%).
- The proportion of second generation LAI was higher than the European average (34%).
- The mean cost per patient was higher for SGA than for FGA (353.5€ vs 27.0€).
- In comparison to conventional injectable antipsychotics, costs per patient were higher for LAI: **155.1€ vs 15.8€** for FGA and **2887.5€ vs 72€** for SGA, respectively.

**CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE**

- In comparison with other European countries, a **predominance of the use of second generation LAI has been detected**. However, the use of LAI is lower.
- **Cost-effectiveness studies** regarding the use of SGA versus FGA and conventional versus LAI antipsychotics are needed in order to **optimize the benefits to the patient and minimize the economic burden for the health system**.