A nationwide pharmacoepidemiological study of multiple sclerosis in Greece

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INTRODUCTION

The percentage of each age group of adults under treatment with PwMS was treated at least once with a DMT during this study period. The most frequently prescribed drugs for symptomatic treatment were anti-spasticity agents (n=3,721, 17.5%), followed by fampridine (n=3,050, 14.5%). Regarding treatment of comorbid conditions, antihypertensives (n=4,483, 21.1%) and drugs for affective disorders such as antidepressants (n=3,760, 36.1%) and anxiolytics (n=3,444, 16.2%) were the most commonly prescribed PAs. Antiepileptics (n=2,306, 13.8%), anti-ulcers (n=2,919, 13.7%) and urinary antispasmodics (n=2,208, 10.8%) were also frequently prescribed as symptomatic treatment for comorbid conditions. (Table. As expected, with the exception of DMTs, the prescriptions of PAs in the <18 age group were uncommon, while the percentage of PwMS under treatment with all other PA categories, was increasing with age. Regarding prescriptions for comorbid conditions, 10,481 (49.4%) PwMS were not prescribed any PA, 4,455 (21%) were prescribed PAs of one category, 2,349 (13.9%) were prescribed PAs of 2 categories and 3,314 (15.6%) were prescribed PAs of 3 or more categories (figure).

RESULTS

CONCLUSIONS

The present national level study highlights the frequent concomitant use of various PAs in PwMS. Comorbid cases with a DMT during this study period. The most frequently prescribed drugs for symptomatic treatment were anti-spasticity agents (n=3,721, 17.5%), followed by fampridine (n=3,050, 14.5%). Regarding treatment of comorbid conditions, antihypertensives (n=4,483, 21.1%) and drugs for affective disorders such as antidepressants (n=3,760, 36.1%) and anxiolytics (n=3,444, 16.2%) were the most commonly prescribed PAs. Antiepileptics (n=2,306, 13.8%), anti-ulcers (n=2,919, 13.7%) and urinary antispasmodics (n=2,208, 10.8%) were also frequently prescribed as symptomatic treatment for comorbid conditions. (Table. As expected, with the exception of DMTs, the prescriptions of PAs in the <18 age group were uncommon, while the percentage of PwMS under treatment with all other PA categories, was increasing with age. Regarding prescriptions for comorbid conditions, 10,481 (49.4%) PwMS were not prescribed any PA, 4,455 (21%) were prescribed PAs of one category, 2,349 (13.9%) were prescribed PAs of 2 categories and 3,314 (15.6%) were prescribed PAs of 3 or more categories (figure).

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DISCLOSURES

The authors report no conflicts of interest and no financial support from any company or organization that might impart bias in the results. This study was supported by the Ministry of Development and Competitiveness of Greece and the Greek Association of Neuroimmunology and Neuroinflammatory Diseases (GANT). This study was sponsored by Novartis, Roche, Idec, Sanofi, Biogen, Sanofi, Genzyme, and Genzyme Merck. All authors contributed to the study’s design, and all authors contributed to the writing of this article. The authors have indicated no financial relationships that could constitute a competing interest.