

Characterization of severe asthma patients affiliated to the Hospital Italiano Medical Care Program in Buenos Aires, Argentina

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Rationale

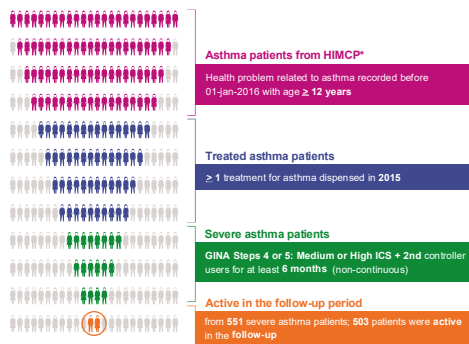
- Although severe asthma (SA) accounts for a small proportion of the total asthma population, it is associated with a large portion of asthma morbidity and medical resource expenditure.¹
- Characterization of SA patients may support health maintenance organization (HMO) to plan improvements in disease management programs to obtain better health outcomes.

Objectives:

We aimed to describe the demographic and clinical characteristics as well as the comorbidities of SA patients affiliated to a prepaid HMO located in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Methods

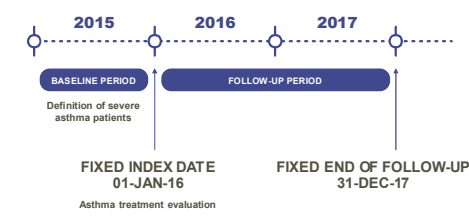
How severe asthma patients were identified?



*HIMCP stands for Hospital Italiano Medical Care Program

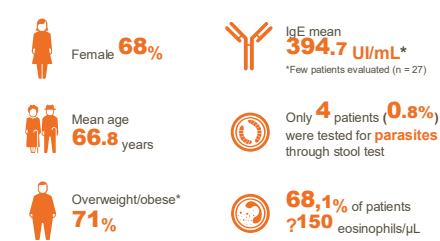
Methods

Figure 1. Cohort time frame



Results

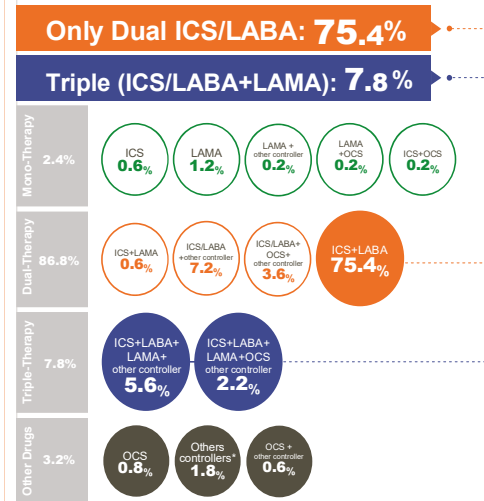
Figure 2. Characterization of the 503 patients at baseline



*based on BMI calculation.

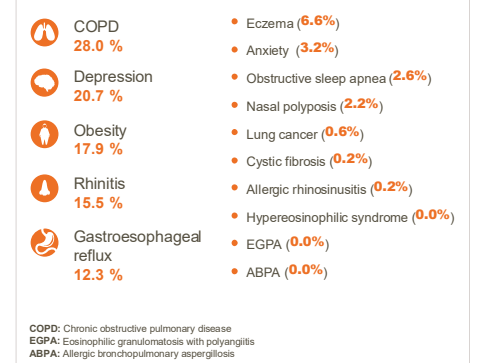
Results

Figure 3. Treatment dispensed at index date*



ICS: inhaled corticosteroid; LAMA: long-acting muscarinic antagonist; LABA: long-acting beta₂-agonist; OCS: oral corticosteroid; Other controller refers to leukotriene receptor antagonist, theophylline or anti-IgE
 *Mono, dual and triple therapy were considered only isolated or combined use of ICS, LABA or LAMA.

Figure 4. Most frequent comorbidities registered until the end of follow-up period



Conclusions

- Most of SA patients were overweight or obese, with relevant comorbidities such as COPD and depression.
- A small proportion of patients were identified using maximum bronchodilation (ICS/LABA+LAMA).
- The characterization of these patients is relevant for both patients and HMO, who can improve disease management strategies to leverage patient care.

References
 1. Godard P, Chavez P, Siraudin L, Nicolagannis N, Dasi G. Costs of asthma care associated with severity: a 1-year prospective study. Eur Respir J. 2002;19:61-67

Disclosures
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 • VE, PS, WHB, GAB, GS, EW, HF and NP declares the following real or perceived conflicts of interest during the last 3 years in relation to this presentation: Grants from GlaxoSmithKline, during the conduct of the study; FM, AL, JE, AR, RF, LJ, GL, VDB, and CS are GSK employees and hold shares. GA and TN are complementary workers from GlaxoSmithKline.

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