

7387

Profile of ICS/LABA-inhalers sales in Almaty Region of Kazakhstan in 2015/2016

Health policy, Ethics, Airway management

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Background

In Kazakhstan, there are two ways to get ICS/LABA-combination inhaler (ILCI) for patients with Asthma or COPD – to get it free of charge in local outpatient clinic (state social program) or to buy it in pharmacy. Besides of two main ILCI (Symbicort[®], Seretide[®]), we also use generics with same composition. In 2015 Kazakhstan currency devaluated in ≈1.7 times that led to higher prices for ILCI as well.

Aim and objectives

To analyze the quantity of modern ICS/LABA Inhalers taken by patients in Almaty region in 2015/2016 before and after devaluation.

Methods

Budget drug procurement and retail drug sales data for Almaty city and Almaty district were analyzed. Almaty is one of the most populated region of Kazakhstan (Almaty≈1.7 m., Almaty district≈1.9 m., Kazakhstan≈17.9 m.) Other types of inhalers not included, just ILCI.

Results

Table 1. The Quantity of ILCI taken by patients in 2015/2016

	All 2015	All 2016	Budget 2015	Budget 2016	Retail 2015	Retail 2016
Almaty City	61610	36519	19059	19436	42551	17083
Almaty district	17055	12914	15903	11794	1152	1120
TOTAL	78665	49433	34962	31230	43703	18203

Thus, in 2016 the overall quantity of ILCI decreased from 61.6k to 36.5k (40.7%) in Almaty city, and up to 24.3% in suburban and rural areas of Almaty district, mainly in retail sales. Budget drug procurement did not change so significantly (10.7%). Monthly fluctuations were not indicative (correlation index 0.06-0.20)

Conclusions

Significant decrease of the quantity of ILCI sold in Almaty region in 2016 means less effective Asthma/COPD treatment, indication of cheaper and older mono-component inhalers and relievers instead of basis therapy by modern ICS/LABA combinations. Bigger budget for ILCI in 2017 needed.