DIRECT COST OF CANCER PATIENTS ON BRAZILIAN HOSPITAL AND MEDICINES (CHEMOTHERAPY AND PALLIATIVE CARE)

INTRODUCTION

Estimated that there will be over 520,000 new cancer cases in Brazil, given the aging population and exposure to external factors. Therefore it is necessary to know the direct costs of cancer treatment in private hospitals in Brazil, as well as buying medication chemotherapeutic and palliative treatment for these patients.

OBJECTIVE

To analyze the cost of care in oncology inpatients in Brazilian private hospitals and their spending on medicine (chemotherapy and palliative care).

METHODS

We selected a group of patients who bought antineoplastic medicines for all cancers treatments, during 12 months and analyzed the direct cost in Brazilian private hospitals (fees, drugs, procedures, medical devices, materials in general, doctor visits and exams) and also medicines for palliative treatment.

RESULTS

We identified 1,244 patients that consumed antineoplastic at home chemotherapy for treat any cancer kind and more than 50% were above than 59 years old are women.

Home Chemotherapy

We identify 1244 patients spent $4,031,608.98 using 10,983 units of drugs the average amount paid per unit of product was $367.08 and the average use of 8.83 units per patient.

Medication for palliative treatment

Of these patients 446 patients consumed palliative treatment drugs with total spending of $217,721.12 and 7,063 units. The average value of each palliative medicine was $30.83 and the average utilization / patient was 15.84 units and average cost of $488.16 per patients.

Doctor visit

862 patients with 4.48 visits on average.

Direct Cost Per Patient Who Used Chemotherapy

There were 458 patients who were hospitalized with average time of 22.33 days at a cost of $8,574.81. Cost analysis found that the largest hospital spending has with drug use around 69% of all spending, followed procedures and exams which encompassed the infusions hospital procedures and radiotherapy or surgery to treat the disease as you can see below.

CONCLUSION

The direct costs of cancer patients is not restricted and their infusions hospital admissions, but also outpatient expenses, such as oral medications and palliative treatments, reaching the total expenditures of $227,824.62 when considering the period of hospitalization and volume of medicines used outside the hospital.

In this study we show generally spending any cancer not being identified or separate tumor type and degree of staging and initiation of treatment.

It can be used to assess the progress of treatment, and oral efficacy, besides the possible expense for prevention programs.