

MEDICATION USE IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC RHINOSINUSITIS IN GERMANY - A LARGE RETROSPECTIVE PATIENT-BASED STUDY

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BACKGROUND

The aim of the present study was to provide an insight into medical treatment practices among patients with chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) in Germany. An investigation of ICD codes and ATC classes of CRS patients in general and otolaryngology offices in Germany should reveal the prevalent treatment behaviors of German physicians.

METHODS

The present study used data from the Disease Analyzer database (IQVIA). The study sample included patients from 940 general (GP) and 106 otolaryngology (ENT) practices who were coded as having chronic sinusitis (ICD-10: J32) or nasal polyps (ICD-10: J33) in 2015 (index date). The primary outcome measures were the number of patients with these diagnoses per practice as well as the proportion of patients with prescriptions for topical corticosteroids, systemic corticosteroids, antibiotics, antihistamines, and local decongestants within 365 days after the first diagnosis.

RESULTS

This retrospective study included 26,768 patients with coding for chronic sinusitis (ICD-10: J32) and 516 patients for nasal polyps (ICD-10: J33) in 940 GP practices and 19,826 patients with coding for chronic sinusitis (ICD-10: J32) and 1,773 patients for nasal polyps (ICD-10: J33) in 106 ENT practices. In patients coded as having chronic sinusitis (ICD-10: J32), topical corticosteroids were prescribed at a low rate (GP: 12.3%, ENT: 34.3%). In patients coded as having nasal polyps (ICD-10: J33), topical corticosteroid usage was higher in GP practices (27.3%) and in ENT practices (71.2%).

CONCLUSIONS

Topical corticosteroid usage in CRS patients in GP practices in Germany is as low as in other Western countries. Increased usage of topical corticosteroids in CRS patients with polyposis should be encouraged in GP and ENT practices.

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Thank you for your interest!