

Prescription patterns of antiepileptic drugs in Kazakhstan in 2018: A retrospective study of 57,959 patients

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Epilepsy

Aims

The goal of this retrospective study was to analyze prescription patterns of antiepileptic drugs (AEDs) in Kazakhstan in 2018.

Methods

This study used prescription data of patients with epilepsy who received AEDs in Kazakhstan in 2018. The outcome of the study was the prevalence of use of several AEDs (i.e., valproate, carbamazepine, lamotrigine, topiramate, levetiracetam) in these patients. Demographic variables included age and sex. The present study used descriptive statistics only.

Results

In 2018, 57,959 patients with epilepsy with at least one AED prescription were found in the LRx database in Kazakhstan. The three most frequently prescribed AEDs were valproate (54.6%), carbamazepine (49.3%), and lamotrigine (16.8%). Interestingly, 10,745 valproate users were women aged ≤ 40 years. Monotherapy was more frequent than combination therapy and ranged from 80% in patients receiving topiramate to 90% in those receiving carbamazepine. The three most common combination therapies were valproate-carbamazepine (33.7%), valproate-lamotrigine (16.9%), and lamotrigine-carbamazepine (11.8%).

Conclusion

Patients with epilepsy were frequently prescribed valproate, carbamazepine, and lamotrigine in Kazakhstan in 2018. Further research is needed to gain a better understanding of the prescription of valproate in women with epilepsy who are of childbearing age.

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If you would like to read any of the studies in its entirety, please, contact us to obtain the full version of a publication. Also, our research director is at your disposal if you have any further questions. Thank you for your interest!

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