Purpose To demonstrate the cost of care by embolization of intracranial aneurysm and to understand relation between the cost and clinical patient parameters.

Materials and Methods Between January 2010 and April 2012 48 patients were treated by embolization of cerebral aneurysms. The cost of pharmaceutical products (drugs and medical devices) was assessed by using the micro-costing method that takes into account all direct costs and the overall cost of care was calculated using data from the hospital’s information system.

Results In total, 48 patients were treated, mean age 52.4 ± 12.5 years. The sex ratio M/F = 0.71. 26 patients were covered by health insurance (52.2%). The median overall stay within 10 days [5–11] in ICU was 1 day [1 to 2] and in the medical unit was 6 days [5 to 9.75]. The overall average cost of treatment was €9,697.8, varying from €4,784.3 to €32,172.3. The cost of pharmaceutical products was on average 57.6% of the overall cost. While the average cost of consumables was €5,612.4 with a range of €2,499.1 to €16,370.8. Length of stay does not influence the overall cost of care, but the cost is influenced by the amount of embolization material.

Conclusions The cost of pharmaceutical products in the endovascular treatment of intracranial aneurysms remains high and represents a major handicap for the development of this technique in countries with low coverage by health insurance. As we mentioned before, this latter overall cost is especially influenced by number of embolization materials and number of aneurysms.

No conflict of interest.

THE INCIDENCE OF BACTEREMIA DUE TO CATHETERS AND THE COST OF ANTIBIOTICS BEFORE AND AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ZERO BACTEREMIA PROJECT

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Background Primary bacteraemia and bacteraemia cases caused by catheter infections entail a high pharmaceutical cost. The ‘Zero Bacteraemia Project’ (ZBP) for central intravenous catheter (CVC) use in invasive therapies showed a decrease in the number of bacteraemia cases and a financial effect on hospitalizations.

Purpose To study the number of primary bacteraemia and bacteraemia cases caused by catheter infections among patients hospitalised in our Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and the pharmaceutical cost after implementation of the CVC guides. We compared these data to those obtained from 2007–2008.

Materials and Methods We retrospectively studied 2355 patients who were admitted to our Intensive Care Unit. 1280 patients were studied before BZP (2007–2008) and 1073 after BZP implementation. The BZP implied: catheter insertion with maximal sterile barrier precautions in ICU, correct hand washing, hygienic precautions when using CVCs and the removal of unnecessary catheters. We compared the pharmaceutical cost in antibiotics in both periods. We also studied the five most-used antibiotics in this hospital for the treatment of catheter-related infections suffered by the sample group in this ICU. The data were obtained by the programme ‘ENVIN-ICU’.

Results A total of 35 pre-BZP and 13 post-BZP catheter-related bacteraemia cases were detected. 5.14 and 2.17 bacteraemia cases for every 100 patients with CVC. A 37% reduction was observed in the incidence of bacteraemia. The pharmaceutical cost just in antibiotics for the 35 patients infected during the first period amounted to €100,68 euros. However it dropped to €388,93 euros during the following period. A 23% saving was observed on the antibiotics consumption.

Conclusions The data from this study show that the use of the ‘Zero Bacteraemia’ policy in the process of inserting and monitoring CVCs is useful to reduce the number of infections. A statistically significant decrease in the number of bacteraemia cases and a monetary saving in antibiotics were found too.

No conflict of interest.

TREATMENT OF POSTOPERATIVE ANAEMIA IN ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY: A BUDGET IMPACT ANALYSIS FROM A HOSPITAL PERSPECTIVE

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Background Standard postoperative anaemia management includes oral iron or intravenous iron supplementation (iron sucrose complex, ISC), erythropoietin therapy and blood transfusion. Introduction of a new intravenous iron formulation (ferric carboxymaltose, FCN), more expensive than ISC but with simplified administration modalities, could have economic consequences for hospitals.