The Direct Economic Burden of Diverticulitis Recurrence Among Managed Care Enrollees

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BACKGROUND
• The United States (US) population ages and the number of elderly people increases, diverticulitis (DV) will become a larger problem with increasing morbidity.

METHODS
• Study Design: Descriptive analyses entailed the tabular display of continuous outcomes of interest, and McNemar’s test was used for categorical measures of interest. Statistical software was used for categorical measures of interest.
• Study Sample (Figure 1): After applying study inclusion and exclusion criteria, a total of 36,636 patients remained for analysis.

RESULTS
• Among those with a recurrence, there is significant variation in costs among those with recurrent episodes, with recurrences costing substantially more than initial acute episodes.

CONCLUSIONS
• The mean initial episode cost was approximately 2.6 times greater for those with recurrent episodes versus patients with a single recurrence; however, the mean cost of all recurrences and initial acute episode cost was still approximately four times ($24,247 vs. $6,903).

OBJECTIVE
To assess the direct economic burden associated with DV recurrence among US enrollees with an initial acute DV episode.

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