In this large commercially insured population, the real-world CGRP drug uptake was slow during the first 6 months of CGRP therapy. Discontinuation was defined as the number of members new to a CGRP in May 2018 through January 2019. As of the end of the post-index period, only 57% of members in the pre-index period were counted toward the OMS. The number of members with at least one opioid claim in the pre-index period was 1,859 compared to 1,364 in the post-index period (a reduction of 26%). The mean daily MME in the pre-index period was defined as the mean of all MMEs in each member for the 30-day period divided by 30. In Post-index Period

Conclusions

In a large commercially insured population, the real-world CGRP drug uptake was slow during the initial months after launch. In May 2018 and June 2019, there was a sharp increase in CGRP drug expense seen in July 2019.

Prime Therapeutics is forecasting that in the month of December 2020, the CGRP expense will be $15 million, a full decrease of $15.8 million in CGRP expense seen in July 2019. While few members were found to switch to CGRP, 40% of members still initiating a CGRP drug over the first six months of therapy. A few important reasons for taking advantage of these data in CGRP drug claims are in place to recap the prices for early CGRP discontinuation. The high discontinuation rates in the first six months of therapy, severe, difficult-to-treat migraine patients are most likely those initially initiating CGRP therapy.

CGRP = Calcitonin Gene-related Peptides; CGRP initiation = date of first CGRP claim; mo = month.

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