

HEALTHCARE UTILIZATION AND COST OF ADULTS COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA IN ARGENTINA

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Community-acquired pneumonia (CAP) is an important cause of mortality and morbidity worldwide especially in adults > 65 years. The total cost of CAP in this population is unknown in Argentina.

Methods: We constructed a Markov model to estimate argentinean healthcare services use and costs of CAP in 2010 adults > 65 years cohort. Data of incidence and healthcare utilization were obtained from available database Unit cost was obtained from the National Fee, Union health insurance and private formulary. Healthcare cost used 2012 US dollars.

Results: CAP caused 167,572 illness episodes, 12,869 deaths, 98,869 hospitalizations, and 335,144 outpatient visits. Direct medical costs totaled \$ USD 247,334,669.91 Public Sector accounted for 32%; Unions 36.20% and Private Sector 31.8%

Conclusions: Burden of CAP is huge in Argentina and its remains an important cause of morbidity, mortality as well.