

Treatment of IgA Nephropathy in Chinese Patients: Evidence from Real-World Data

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Introduction:

Immunoglobulin A nephropathy (IgAN) accounts for more than 50% of primary glomerulonephritis in China¹. The aim of this real-world study was to describe and compare the treatment strategy of Chinese nephrologist with nephrologists across the world for patients with IgAN.

Methods: A point-in-time, cross-sectional survey utilizing data from Adelphi Real-world IgAN Disease-Specific Programme was conducted in China, Japan, United States (US) and Europe (EU5: France, Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom), from June to October 2021. 60 nephrologists from China completed a structured online record for successive 587 IgAN patients, including treatment regimens and patient clinical characteristics.

Results: The proportion of different lines of treatments with ACEi/ARB, SGLT2i, corticosteroids and other therapy was analyzed and shown (Figure 1). Compared with EU5 and US, the proportion of ACEi/ARB use at first line was lower in Asia (EU5 84%, US 86%, China 74%, Japan 59%), while the use of corticosteroids in Asia as first line was higher (EU5 36%, US 44%, China 47%, Japan 63%). Main reasons to stop corticosteroids was when patient's condition improved, treatment course completed, or side effects, of which weight gain (51%), acne (43%) and insomnia (30%) were most reported by Chinese nephrologists. Despite different lines of treatment, the proteinuria and eGFR levels were not well controlled (Table 1).

Conclusion: Despite attempts to alter various therapeutic regimens, IgAN remained poorly controlled. These data highlight an unmet need for the development of more effective drugs to treat and mitigate disease progression.

References

1. Jin-Hua Hou, et al. *Kidney Dis (Basel)*. 2018; 4(1): 10-19.

Figure 1 Treatment strategies adopted by nephrologists between different line treatments

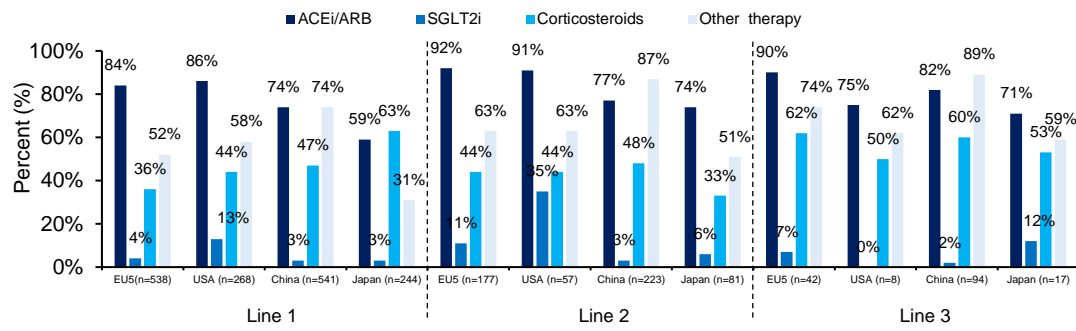


Table 1 Mean Proteinuria and eGFR levels in patients with different line* treatments

	Number	Levels of proteinuria (g/day)	Number	eGFR (mL/min/1.73m ² /year)
Line 1	430	2.1	402	85.1
Line 2	177	1.8	170	77.4
Line 3	75	1.8	75	71.8
Line 4	24	1.9	23	59.1
Line 5	6	1.4	6	43.3

*Line: A line change was determined by a change in treatment (add/stop/switch of a drug), defined by the nephrologists.