Title: Work, productivity, and activity impairment in patients with immunoglobulin A nephropathy: Results from a real-world study

Authors: Richard Lafayette¹, Carolina Aldworth², Aneesh Thomas George³, Jonathan de Courcy⁴, Jade Garratt-Wheeldon⁴, Briana Ndife², Michel Kroes⁵

¹Stanford University Medical Center, USA; ²Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, New Jersey, USA, ³Novartis Healthcare Private Limited, Hyderabad, India; ⁴Adelphi Real World, Bollington, England, UK; ⁵ Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland

Background: Immunoglobulin A nephropathy (IgAN) is the most common primary glomerulonephritis worldwide, with an annual incidence of ~25/1 million. Here, we describe the socioeconomic burden of IgAN, through the work productivity and activity impairment (WPAI) questionnaire.

Methods: The Adelphi IgAN Disease Specific Programme™ was a point-in-time survey of IgAN-treating nephrologists and their patients in the US, Europe (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the UK [EU5]), Japan, and China between June and October 2021. Nephrologists completed online records for successive patients with IgAN, including clinical characteristics and patients' insurance coverage. Patients reported disease impact on work and routine activities, including the WPAI general health questionnaire. Analyses were descriptive.

Results: Nephrologists completed records for 883 patients with known proteinuria at survey and corresponding patient-reported WPAI (US n=67, EU5 n=176, Japan n=98, China n=542). The mean patient age was 42 years; 56% were male. The mean time since IgAN diagnosis was 3.3 years (US 4.0, EU5 5.0, Japan 4.2, and China 2.5).

At the time of survey, 37% of patients had proteinuria ≥1 g/day (US 66%, EU5 43%, Japan 16%, and China 35%); 88% had health insurance that covered treatment for IgAN.

The mean patient-reported work time missed by patients with proteinuria ≥ 1 g/day vs <1 g/day was US 10.5% vs 0.4%, EU5 8.2% vs 8.3%, Japan 19.9% vs 3.5%, and China 20.5% vs 12.7%. The mean percentage impairment while working in patients with proteinuria ≥ 1 g/day vs <1 g/day was US 31.8% vs 9.4%, EU5 16.9% vs 8.7%, Japan 37.5% vs 15.3%, and China 37.0% vs 26.4%. Differences in impairment of daily activities were noted, with ≥ 1 g/day vs <1 g/day: US 36.4% vs 14.3%, EU5 25.1% vs 11.7%, Japan 41.2% vs 22.1%, and China 47.6% vs 33.7%.

Conclusions: IgAN patients with ≥1 g/day proteinuria may experience greater WPAI burden than patients with <1 g/day. This impact on patients' work productivity and daily impairment highlights the need for effective therapies.

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