



Discrete-Event Simulation Model Projects Economic Outcomes Associated with Long-term Clinical Remission in Patients with Severe Asthma Receiving Mepolizumab

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Background

- Clinical remission is an ambitious and achievable treatment goal for patients with asthma, partly due to the implementation of precision therapies including biologics¹⁻⁵
- While definitions of clinical remission are still evolving, most include the following 4 components: absence of exacerbations, no use of OCS while on treatment, symptom control, and optimized/stabilized lung function^{1-3,6}
- Mepolizumab, a first-in-class humanized monoclonal antibody that specifically targets IL-5, is approved for the treatment of severe asthma with an eosinophilic phenotype.⁷ It has demonstrated clinical benefits for patients in RCTs and in real-world studies⁸⁻¹³
- We developed an exploratory model to project long-term economic impacts of clinical remission attainment with mepolizumab

Aims

To describe the long-term economic impacts of clinical remission attainment in patients with severe asthma receiving mepolizumab using results from a discrete-event simulation model



The impact of mepolizumab on clinical remission in patients with severe asthma was modeled in this study for the first time; economic benefits associated with clinical remission in severe asthma were predicted

Results

Figure 1: In the base case, 29.5% and 35.2% of patients treated with mepolizumab achieved all 4 clinical remission components at Years 1 and 2, respectively, after which the proportion of patients in clinical remission stabilized

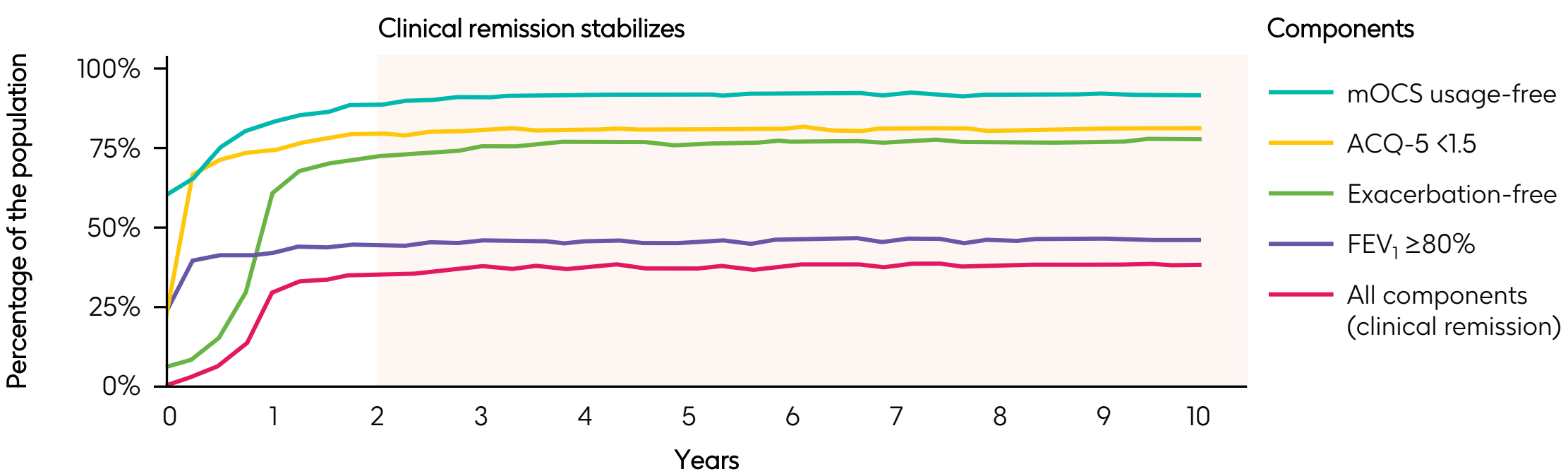


Figure 2: In the base case, undiscounted costs per patient at Year 1 were 5% lower for patients in clinical remission versus patients not in remission when treatment costs were included, and 64% lower when treatment costs were excluded

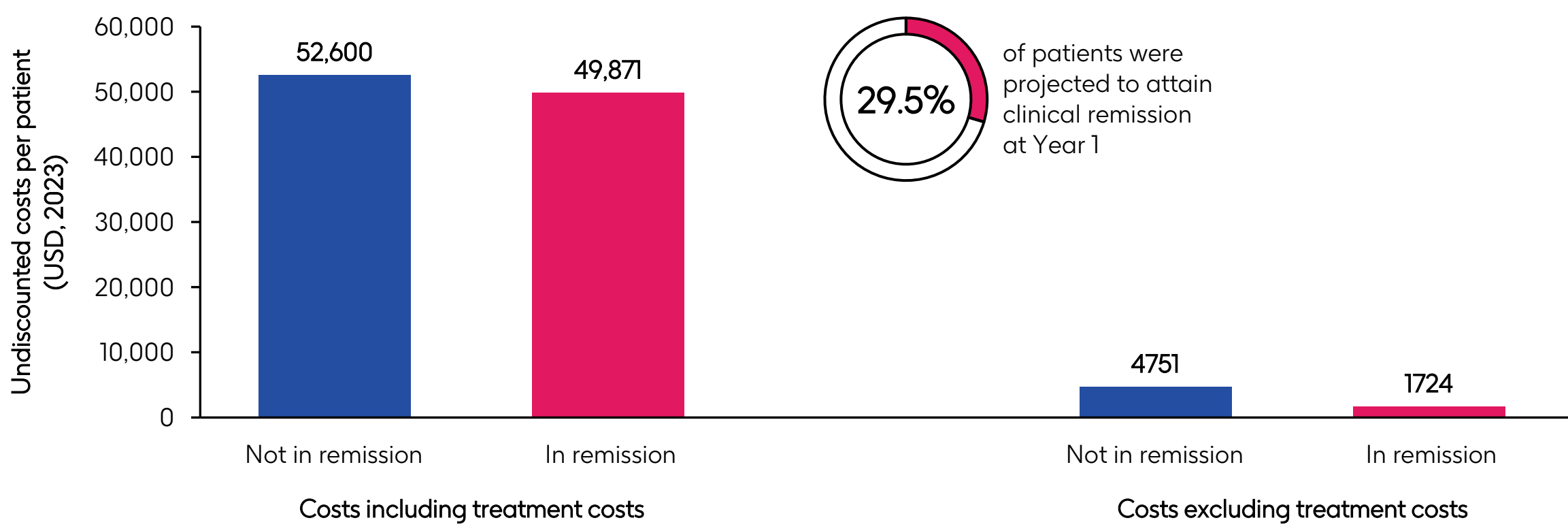
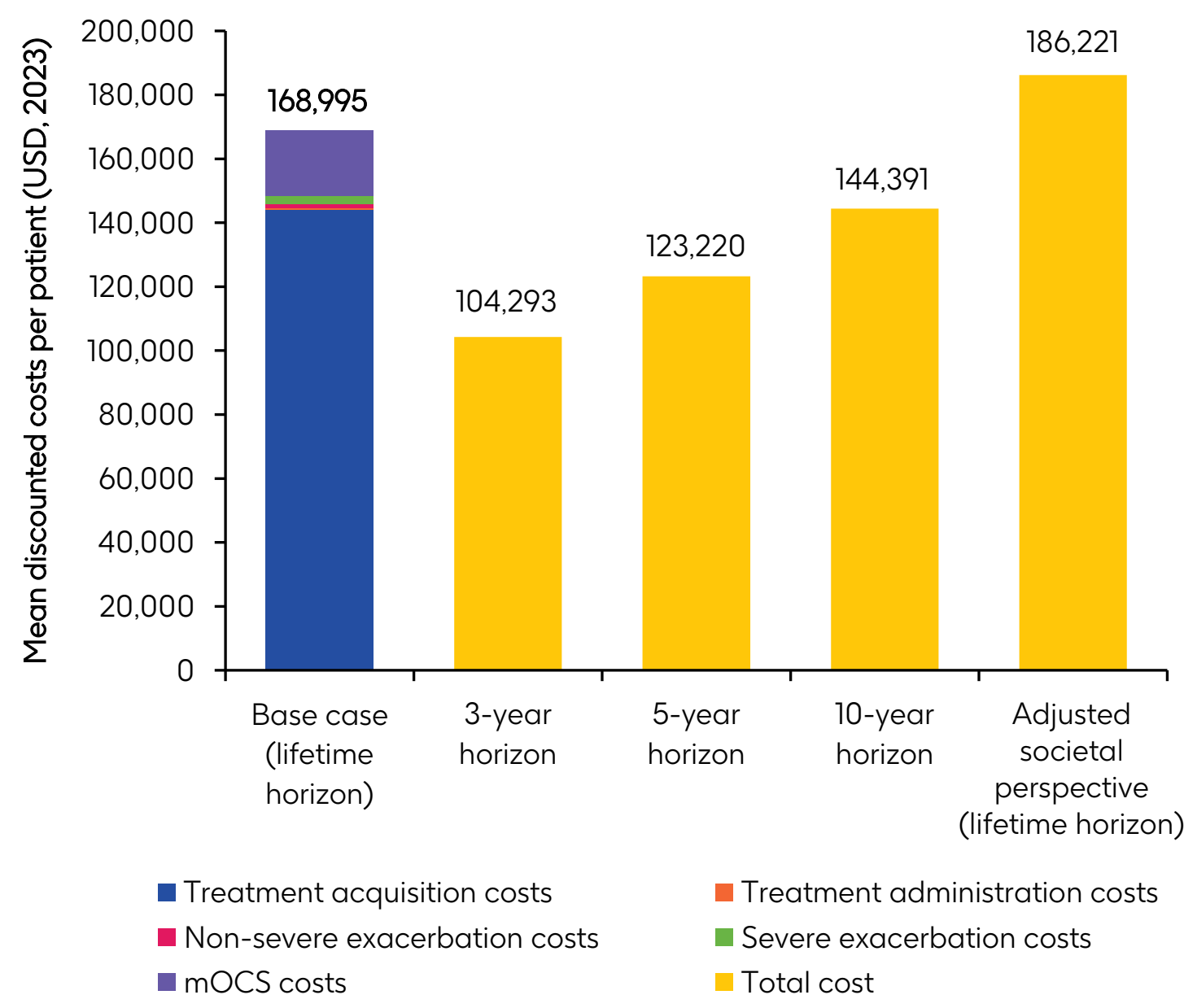


Figure 3: For all patients (regardless of remission status), the mean discounted (3%) costs per patient treated with mepolizumab over a lifetime horizon were \$168,995, driven by treatment acquisition and mOCS costs. In scenario analyses, shorter time horizons of 3, 5, and 10 years yielded lower mean discounted costs compared with the base case. The adjusted societal perspective resulted in higher mean discounted costs compared with the base case within a lifetime horizon



Conclusions

This study modeled, for the first time, the impact of mepolizumab on clinical remission attainment in patients with severe asthma and predicted that economic benefits are associated with clinical remission

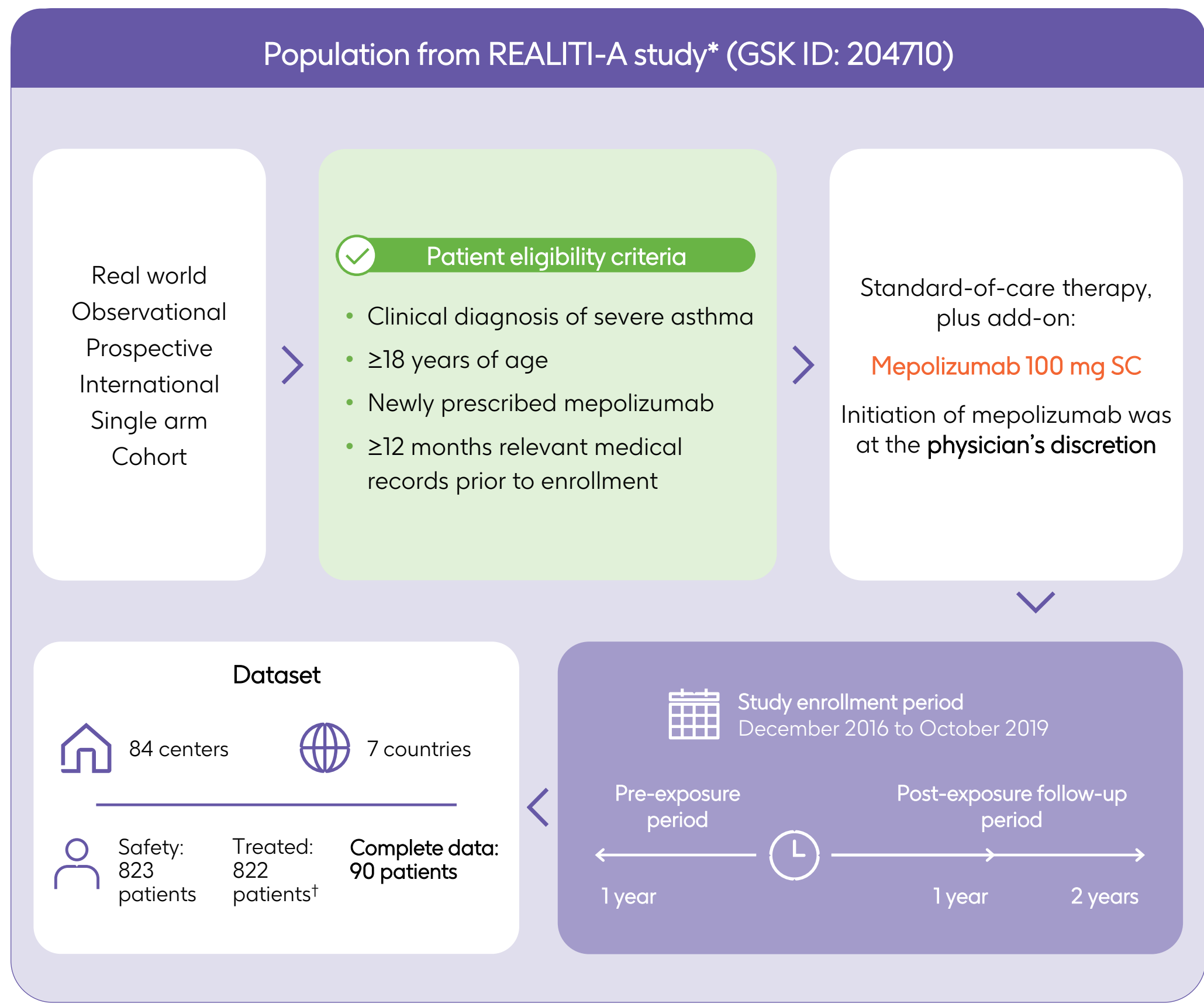
Total costs were lower for patients in clinical remission compared with patients who were not in remission at Year 1, regardless of whether treatment costs were included or excluded

- These findings are important considering the high overall economic burden demonstrated in severe asthma, particularly when adjusted societal perspectives are taken into consideration
- The 3-year time horizon yielded the lowest total costs compared with the base case; this is because patients had less time to accrue costs due to the short time horizon

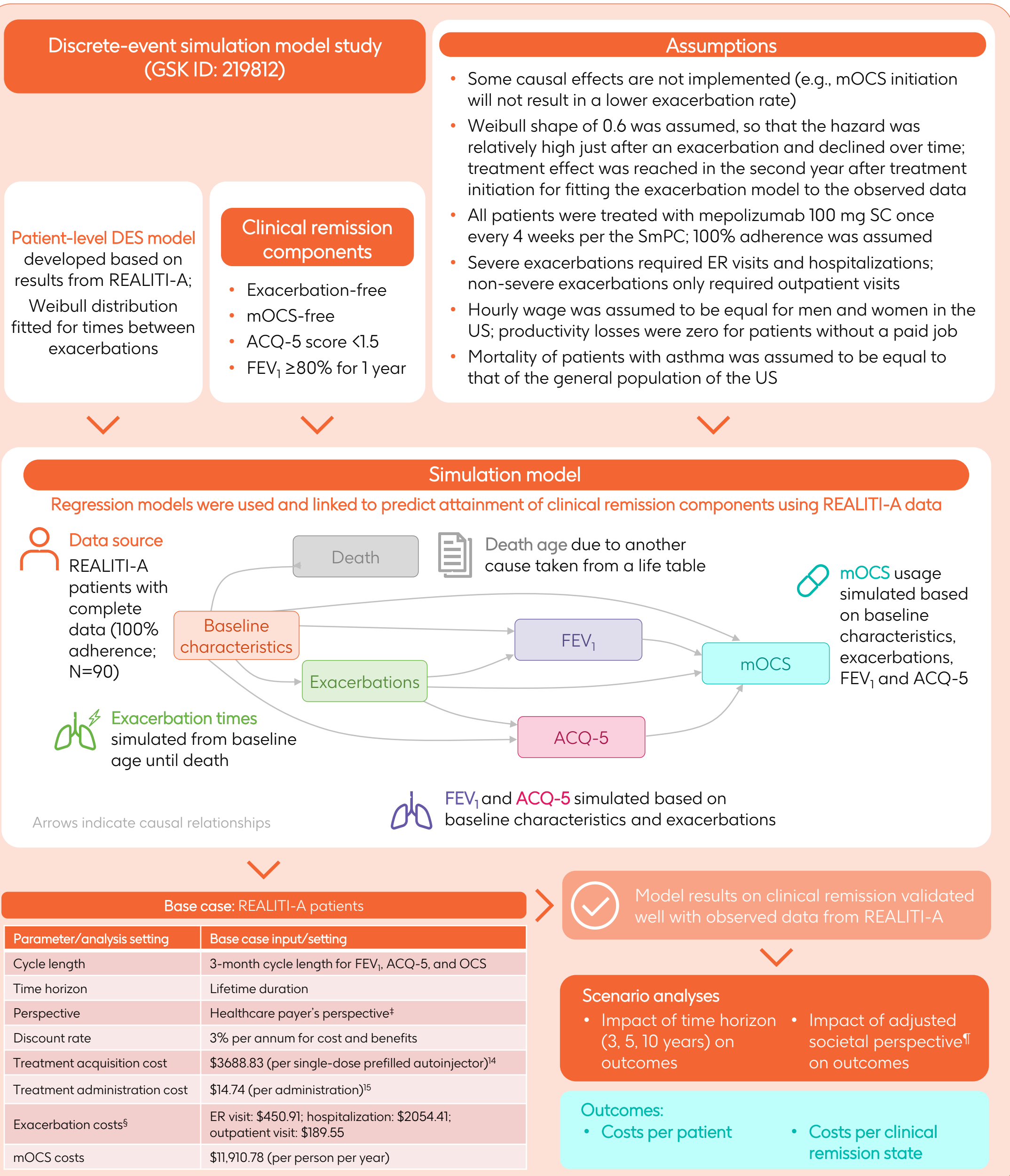
Limitations of the model include that it assumed treatment effect was reached in the second year and as such that clinical remission stabilized after Year 2; however, there is some evidence to suggest that the rate of clinical remission increases over time^{16,17}

More research is needed to validate the current study's findings and further utilize clinical remission for subsequent health-economic analysis

Study design



All costs were inflated to 2023 USD. *Data were collected as part of routine healthcare visits; †One patient was excluded from the treated population after initiating mepolizumab at 300 mg SC (approved dose for EGPA); ‡Did not include productivity losses; §Included costs for severe exacerbations (ER visits and hospitalizations) and non-severe exacerbations (outpatient visits); ¶Included productivity losses (i.e. costs due to patients not able to work as a result of their asthma); ††If patients indicated that they did not have a paid job or did not miss any work due to their disease, it was assumed that the productivity losses were zero



Abbreviations

ACQ-5, Asthma Control Questionnaire-5; DES, discrete-event simulation; ER, emergency room; EGPA, eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis; FEV₁, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; IL-5, interleukin-5; (m)OCS, (maintenance) oral corticosteroid; RCT, randomized controlled trial; SC, subcutaneous; SmPC, Summary of Product Characteristics; US, United States; USD, United States Dollar

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