

Price Behavior of Originator Adalimumab After Biosimilars Entry: Evidence from the Colombian Market.

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INTRODUCTION

Biologic medicines are initially marketed under monopoly conditions protected by patents. The introduction of biosimilars promotes competition and shifts pricing dynamics to market driven behavior.

OBJECTIVE

To assess the price evolution of originator adalimumab following the entry of biosimilars in Colombia.

METHODS

A retrospective analysis was conducted using data from Colombia's Drug Price Information System (SISMED) (1). Information was collected on dispensed volumes and unit price ranges for the originator adalimumab (Humira®). Biosimilars (Amgevita®, Idacio®, and Hyrimoz®) were included from their respective market entry dates. Weighted average prices were calculated annually based on dispensed units, and all prices were standardized by estimating cost per milligram to ensure comparability. All prices were deflated to 2024 values and subsequently converted to US dollars using the representative market exchange rate from 31/12/24 (1 USD = 4,409 COP). A joinpoint regression was conducted, and the Annual Percent Change (APC) was calculated to identify significant changes and overall price dynamics over time.

RESULTS



HUMIRA®

APC 2015 – 2019: 0.29%, average price 7.4 USD/mg
APC after biosimilars: -8.90%, price in 2024: 4.4 USD/mg



AMGEVITA®

Launched in 2019 at 9.72 USD/mg
APC: -23.26%, price in 2024: 3.4 USD/mg
Most pronounced annual decline



HYRIMOZ® AND IDACIO®

Launched in 2022
APCs: -10.91% and -16.48%, prices in 2024 <1.5 USD/mg



STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT

All APC estimates were statistically significant ($p < 0.05$)

Figure 1. Drug sales cost according to year (USD) reported by importer

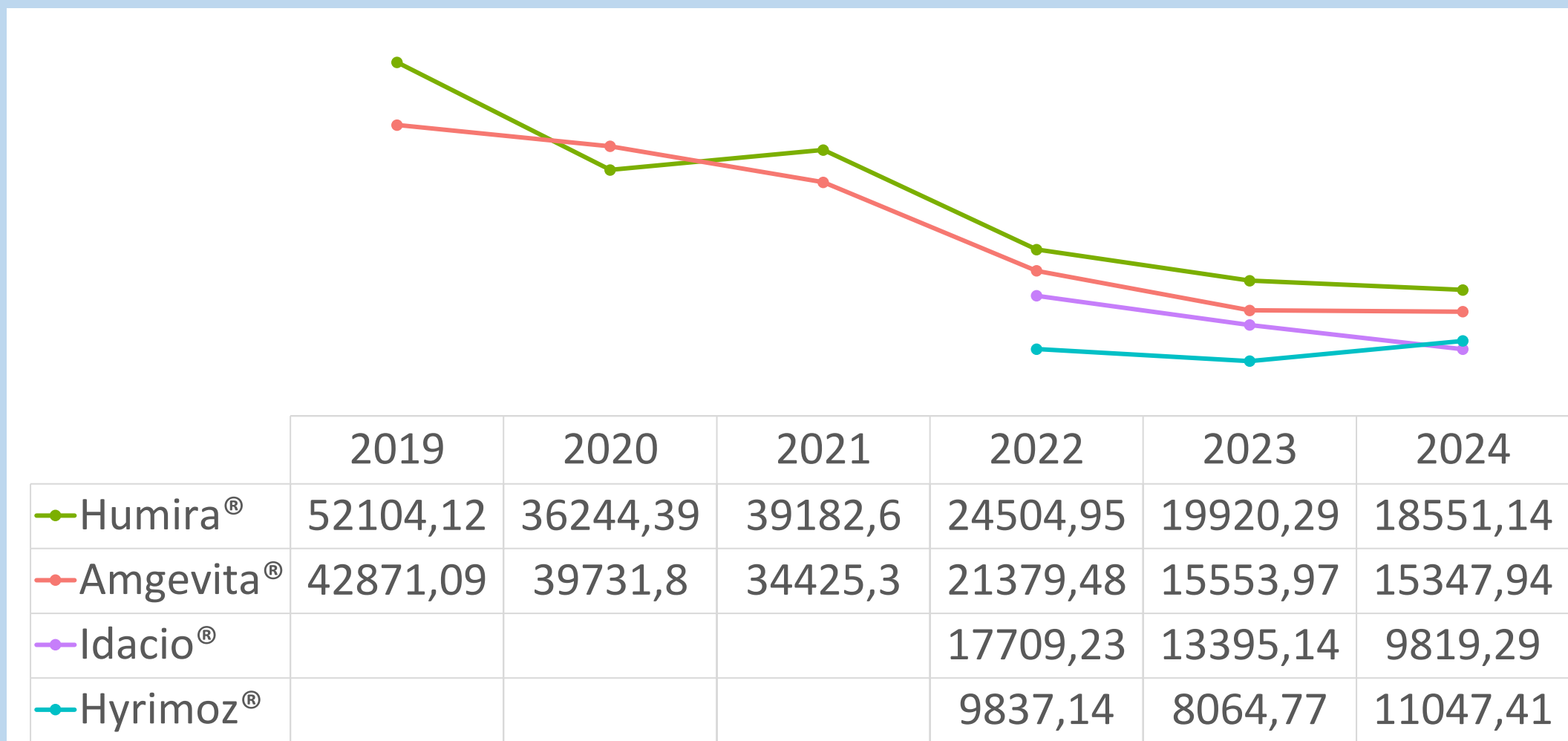
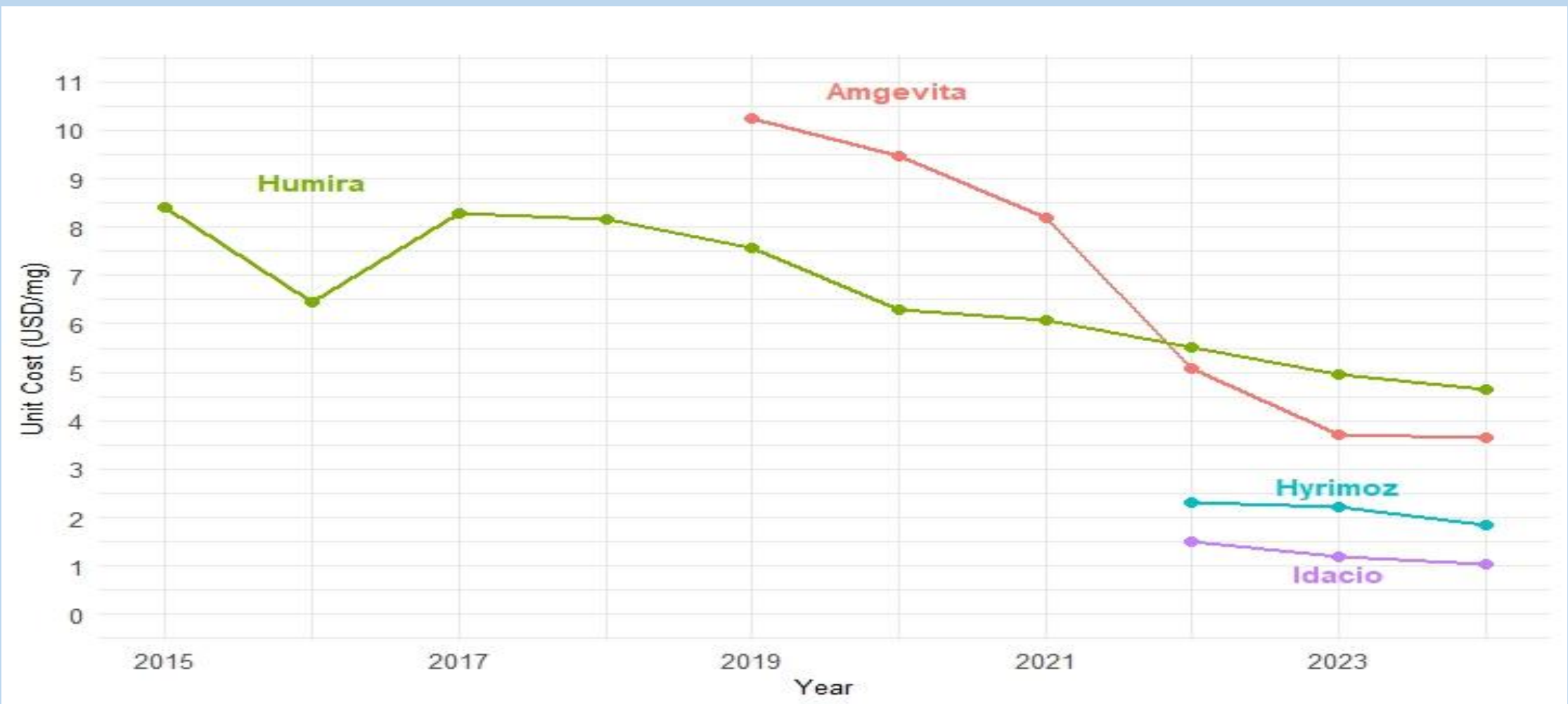


Figure 2. Cost (USD/mg) according to year reported by others



CONCLUSIONS

Prices of originator adalimumab declined steadily after biosimilar entry, with similar trends observed for biosimilars. These findings suggest that biosimilar competition contributes to cost containment and plays a key role in improving access and promoting sustainability within the Colombian health system.

REFERENCES

1). Ministerio de Salud y Protección Social. Consulta Pública de Precios de Medicamentos en la Cadena de Comercialización - Circular 2 de 2012. Cited: august 20th. Available at: https://web.sispro.gov.co/WebPublico/Consultas/ConsultarCNPMcadenaComercializacionCircu2yPA_028_2_2.aspx

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