THE NATIONWIDE OSMED HEALTH-DB DATABASE.
A TOOL TO SUPPORT HEALTHCARE DECISION-MAKING AND REAL-WORLD EVIDENCE GENERATION

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OSMED HEALTH-DB DATABASE CHARACTERISTICS

- OsMed Health-DB Database has been developed to support different health care professionals (e.g. Regions, Local Health Units (LHUs), General Practitioners, specialists) in the monitoring of the compliance of prescribing with therapeutic care standards and in assessing the effects of measures implemented to improve the adherence to these standards.
- Some indicators have been developed in the Health-DB project, of whom are calculated on administrative flows provided by a selection of 79 LHUs covering almost all Italian Regions.

- This database includes about 35 million health-assisted individuals (about 49.2% of the Italian population), homogeneously distributed throughout the Country: North (54.3%), Center (15%) and South (30.7%).
- The average age of the LHU sample is 43.5 years vs 43.3 years of the Italian population. The percentage of males is estimated to 48.5%, in accordance with the national data available.

DATA INCLUSION

For each LHU the following currents administrative flows have been acquired:
- demographic data (including deaths);
- standard pharmaceutical distribution;
- direct pharmaceutical distribution;
- per conto pharmaceutical distribution;
- hospital discharge records.

For some LHUs, the flow of laboratories was experimentally acquired and used to design/define and calculate diabetes mellitus medicines indicators. Information from these flows was combined through a data linkage procedure on the patient identification (ID) code. According to the privacy legislation (Legislative Decree n. 196 of 2003 and following amendments), patient ID code are anonymized by LHU staff.

THERAPEUTIC AREAS

The database contains the information necessary to calculate indicators for the following chronic diseases:
- Hypertension
- Hypercholesterolemia
- Diabetes mellitus
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- Osteoporosis
- Depression
- Ulcers and esophagitis
- Anemia

THE MAIN APPLICATION

Monitoring of profiles of use of medicines and adherence to treatment (Report OsMed):
- Regional Decrees to establish measures (homogeneous) to assess therapeutic appropriateness and the rational use of resources;
- Estimation of the budget (and needs) of pharmaceutical expenditure (under spending - and overspending areas) under the right of therapeutic appropriateness and rational use of resources;
- Evidence the level of transfer of the therapeutic recommendations in clinical practice and, accordingly, of the intervention priorities towards areas of greater inappropriateness;
- Involvement of Physicians in a virtuous process of improving the prescription appropriateness rather than reducing the prescription variability.