

VOT2 Case Study on Major Depressive Disorder

The overarching aim of the “value of treatment” study is to investigate access to psychological therapies and pharmacological treatments for adults with severe depression and develop evidence-based policy recommendations on improving the care pathway(s) for major depressive disorder in Europe.

Box 3 : Major depressive disorder in a word

Depression overall 1 year prevalence (European region): 12% (WHO, 2017). Global prevalence high in all age groups. Ranked by WHO as the single largest contributor to global disability (7.5% of all years lived with disability, 2015) and the disability burden is growing.

STUDY OBJECTIVES

A care pathways analysis will identify current treatment gaps and patient needs along the care pathway; analyse the underlying causes; and identify existing or propose potential solutions.

The economic study proposed here will build on this analysis, and the objectives are to

- 1) Estimate the costs (including impact on quality of life) associated with treatment gaps;
- 2) Estimate the potential savings from closing or reducing them by implementing existing or proposed solutions (“case studies”).

While the aim should be to construct one overarching model of the entire care pathway, it is acknowledged that a lack of data may mean this is not feasible. If this is the case, branches of the care pathway may be modelled separately, i.e. for each proposed case study.

The objective is to produce a model for ~5 countries spanning Europe to provide an international representation of current and best practices in the detection and management of depression.

Available evidence will be combined using economic modelling techniques, referring to a schematic stepped care pathway for MDD, as recommended by guidelines e.g. NICE.

METHOD AND EXPECTED RESULTS

- Patient care pathway and treatment gaps/unmet needs analysis of individuals with major depressive disorder : evidence review (data synthesized) and survey
- Cost consequences analysis and cost effectiveness analysis
- Countries based on availability of data: UK, Germany, Hungary, Sweden, Portugal.