Active cost management model for gyneco-oncological therapies to reduce pharmaceutical costs by 58.7% within one year

Abstract:
Purpose: Non cost-covering oncological chemotherapies can be the financial ruin of any clinic. We report here on a successful concept for active cost management of gynecological-oncological therapies in a university OB/GYN clinic. Material and Method: The model consists of four steps: 1. financial as-is analysis, 2. pre calculation of standardised pharmaceutical costs, 3. a case-by-case management with cost-optimizing individual decisions, and 4. post calculation of actual individual pharmaceutical costs and correction of potential reimbursement mistakes. Results: Depending on several factors for each individual patient a cost-covering pathway was defined while maintaining the standard of care. Within one year the cost of oncological pharmaceuticals could be reduced by 523 208 EUR (-58.7%), although the number of chemo cycles only decreased by 9.1%. Additional sources of financial deficits were identified and eliminated. Conclusion: An active cost management can contribute to making oncologic therapies cost covering without reducing the standard of care in a university clinic.