

Title	Advisory opinion on the reimbursement of proton pump inhibitors
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Aim

In Canada, the current reimbursement status for proton pump inhibitors (PPI) varies from one province to the other. Québec is the only province that reimburses all the PPIs available on the market. In this context, the Québec Minister of Health and Social Services asked INESSS for an advisory opinion on new PPI reimbursement methods.

Conclusions and results

The data analysis and the consultations carried out with Québec experts support the fact that PPIs show similar therapeutic efficacy in treating the various conditions for which they are currently being used. INESSS considers that the PPIs have equivalent therapeutic efficacy. However, INESSS recognizes that differences in individual treatment response may arise with one or the other product.

Recommendations

Considering the elements above, INESSS recommends the scenarios for reimbursing three or four generic PPIs. These scenarios minimize the repercussions for patients and health professionals, even though a fair number of them will be affected. To that end, a delay of at least six months in applying the decision should be planned to ensure a smooth transition. The main differences between these scenarios relate, first, to the savings generated, and, second, to the number of beneficiaries and professionals affected.

Methods

This advisory opinion was produced on the basis of a targeted literature review concerning this class of medication, an economic and pharmaco-economic analysis, a budget impact analysis of different reimbursement scenarios, and an analysis of the consequences of such changes on public health and the health system, taking into account all the assessment criteria provided by law.

Written by

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