

Ranitidine and other histamine H2-receptor antagonists – a drug utilisation study

First published: 03/02/2020

Last updated: 02/05/2024

Study

Finalised

Administrative details

EU PAS number

EUPAS33397

Study ID

39072

DARWIN EU® study

No

Study countries

-  Belgium
 -  France
 -  Germany
 -  Netherlands
 -  Spain
 -  United Kingdom
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Study description

Results of a preliminary laboratory analysis have shown the presence of N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA), a human carcinogen, in ranitidine. At the request of the European Commission, the EMA's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) is evaluating all available data to assess whether patients using ranitidine are at any risk from NDMA and whether regulatory action is warranted at EU level to protect patients and public health. Data about prescribing and use patterns of ranitidine-containing medicines in EU Member States will inform on the population at risk of exposure to NDMA (or other nitrosamines) through use of ranitidine. It will also provide information on usage patterns for different substances of the class informing on usage of substances alternative to ranitidine. By means of a retrospective cohort study we aim to: i) study the prevalence and incidence of exposure to H2-receptor antagonists as a class and by individual ingredient, ii) explore the characteristics of H2-receptor antagonist use in terms of observation time, cumulative duration, cumulative dose and cumulative annual dose for the class as a whole and by individual ingredient with regard to age, sex, formulation, daily dose iii) explore the indication of use of H2-receptor antagonist by class level, individual ingredient and by formulation, iv) explore the proportion of patients treated with H2-receptor antagonists suffering from renal impairment. For this study, we will include Electronic Healthcare Record data from six primary care databases throughout Europe: IPCI (the Netherlands), SIDIAP (Spain), IMRD (UK), LPD (Belgium), DA Germany and DA France. All these databases have their data mapped to the OMOP Common Data Model.

Study status

Finalised

Research institutions and networks

Institutions

Department of Medical Informatics - Health Data Science, Erasmus Medical Center (ErasmusMC)

 Netherlands

First published: 03/11/2022

Last updated: 02/05/2024

Institution

Educational Institution

ENCePP partner

IQVIA

 United Kingdom

First published: 12/11/2021

Last updated: 22/04/2024

Institution

Non-Pharmaceutical company

ENCePP partner

Fundació Institut Universitari per a la Recerca a l'Atenció Primària de Salut Jordi Gol i Gurina, IDIAPJGol

 Spain

First published: 05/10/2012

Last updated: 23/05/2025

Institution

Educational Institution

Laboratory/Research/Testing facility

Not-for-profit

ENCePP partner

Contact details

Study institution contact

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Study contact

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Primary lead investigator

Katia Verhamme

Primary lead investigator

Study timelines

Date when funding contract was signed

Planned: 25/11/2019

Actual: 25/11/2019

Study start date

Planned: 20/01/2020

Actual: 20/01/2020

Data analysis start date

Planned: 15/02/2020

Actual: 15/02/2020

Date of interim report, if expected

Planned: 13/03/2020

Actual: 13/03/2019

Date of final study report

Planned: 27/03/2020

Actual: 07/04/2020

Sources of funding

- EMA

Study protocol

[ranitidine protocol_17Januari2020_FINAL_clean.pdf](#) (1.56 MB)

Regulatory

Was the study required by a regulatory body?

Yes

Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?

Not applicable

Methodological aspects

Study type

Study type list

Study topic:

Human medicinal product

Study type:

Non-interventional study

Scope of the study:

Drug utilisation

Data collection methods:

Secondary use of data

Main study objective:

1/ To study the prevalence and incidence of exposure to H2-receptor antagonists (H2RA) as a class and by individual ingredient
2/ To explore the characteristics of H2RA use
3/ To explore the indication of use of H2RA by class level, individual ingredient and by formulation
4/ To explore the proportion of patients treated with H2RA suffering from renal impairment

Study Design

Non-interventional study design

Cohort

Study drug and medical condition

Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) code

(A02BA) H2-receptor antagonists

H2-receptor antagonists

Population studied

Short description of the study population

The study population consisted of all persons with observation time during the study period.

Subjects were included in the study if they contributed active follow-up time during the study period. No other inclusion or exclusion criteria were applied.

Age groups

- Term newborn infants (0 - 27 days)
 - Infants and toddlers (28 days - 23 months)
 - Children (2 to < 12 years)
 - Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)
 - Adults (18 to < 46 years)
 - Adults (46 to < 65 years)
 - Adults (65 to < 75 years)
 - Adults (75 to < 85 years)
 - Adults (85 years and over)
-

Special population of interest

Renal impaired

Estimated number of subjects

1300000

Study design details

Data analysis plan

All results will be presented by database. Results pooled over the different databases will be provided for the indication of use and history of renal impairment. Drug use both for prevalent and incident users will be expressed as

the number of users per 1,000 persons presented by calendar year, age category (10 years), formulation and sex. Per patient, the cumulative duration will be calculated which is the sum of the duration of the Drug Eras per H2RA ingredient. Results on cumulative duration will be presented as median (and corresponding Q1, Q3, P5, P95, min, max) by class and type of H2RA ingredient, stratified by age category at start, gender and also by formulation (oral or parenteral). Results on PDD/DDD ratio and cumulative exposure (=cumulative number of DDDs) will be presented as median (and corresponding Q1, Q3, P5, P95, min, max) by type of H2RA and stratified by age category, gender, and formulation

Documents

Study results

[Rantidine_finalreport_7thapril2020.pdf](#) (3.49 MB)

Data management

ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

Data sources

Data source(s)

THIN® (The Health Improvement Network®)

Integrated Primary Care Information (IPCI)

The Information System for Research in Primary Care (SIDIAP)

Data source(s), other

THIN, IPCI, SIDIAP, IMS LifeLink:Longitudinal Prescription Data - Bel, DA France,

DA Germany

Data sources (types)

[Administrative healthcare records \(e.g., claims\)](#)

[Electronic healthcare records \(EHR\)](#)

Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

CDM mapping

No

Data quality specifications

Check conformance

Unknown

Check completeness

Unknown

Check stability

Unknown

Check logical consistency

Unknown

Data characterisation

Data characterisation conducted

No