DARWIN EU® – Trends in utilisation of Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medications

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Administrative details

EU PAS number
EUPAS1000000219
Study ID
100000219
DARWIN EU® study
Yes
Yes
Yes Study countries
Study countries
Study countries Belgium

Study description

The overall aim of this study is to characterise the use of ADHD medications in the period of 2010 to 2023. The specific objectives are:

- 1. To estimate the monthly and yearly period prevalence of use of each ADHD medicine, overall and stratified by age and gender in each database.
- 2. To estimate the monthly, quarterly, and yearly incidence of use of each ADHD medicine, overall and stratified by age and gender in each database.
- 3. Among new users of each ADHD medicine, to identify the indication at the time of the initial prescribing/dispensing, overall and stratified by age, sex, and quarter.
- 4. Among new users of each ADHD medicine, to estimate the initial dose, cumulative dose, and time on treatment of the initial medication, overall and stratified by age, sex, indication at index, and quarter.
- 5. Among new users of any ADHD medicine, to estimate the total treatment duration, number of prescriptions overall and by medicine., stratified by initial medicine and quarter of the year.
- 6. To identify the treatment pathway of each individual who initiated an ADHD medicine, including treatment add-on, switch and concurrent medication/co-prescribing, stratify by calendar time of initiation.

Study status

Finalised

Research institutions and networks

Institutions

Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology
and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS), University
of Oxford
United Kingdom
First published: 01/02/2024
Last updated: 01/02/2024
Institution Educational Institution Hospital/Clinic/Other health care facility

Networks

Data Analysis and Real World Interrogation Network
(DARWIN EU®)
Belgium
Croatia
☐ Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Italy
☐ Netherlands
Norway

Portugal
Spain
Sweden
United Kingdom
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Contact details

Study institution contact

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Study contact

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Primary lead investigator

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Primary lead investigator

Study timelines

Date when funding contract was signed

Planned: 26/03/2024

Actual: 26/03/2024

Study start date

Planned: 26/06/2024

Data analysis start date

Planned: 12/08/2024

Date of final study report

Planned: 30/09/2024 Actual: 24/02/2025

Sources of funding

EMA

Study protocol

DARWIN EU D2.2.3 Protocol P3-C1-004 DUS ADHD V4.pdf (2.01 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:

Disease /health condition

Study type:

Non-interventional study

Scope of the study:

Drug utilisation

Data collection methods:

Secondary use of data

Study design:

Cohort studies will be conducted using routinely collected health data from 6 databases. The study will comprise two consecutive parts (see protocol).

Study Design

Non-interventional study design

Cohort

Study drug and medical condition

Name of medicine, other

Lisdexamfetamine (N06BA12)

Methylphenidate (N06BA04)

Atomoxetine (ATC code: N06BA09)

Dexamfetamine (N06BA02)

Study drug International non-proprietary name (INN) or common name

ATOMOXETINE

GUANFACINE HYDROCHLORIDE

METHYLPHENIDATE

Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) code

(C02AC02) guanfacine

guanfacine

(N06BA02) dexamfetamine

dexamfetamine

(N06BA04) methylphenidate

methylphenidate

(N06BA09) atomoxetine

atomoxetine

(N06BA12) lisdexamfetamine

lisdexamfetamine

Medical condition to be studied

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder

Additional medical condition(s)

ADHD

Population studied

Short description of the study population

Population-level utilisation of ADHD medications: general population.

All people aged 3 years and older (Rocco et al. 2021), registered in the respective databases since the 1st of January of 2010 to the latest available data, with at least 365 days of prior data availability, will participate in the population-level analysis of period prevalence and incidence of ADHD medications of interest.

Patient-level utilisation of ADHD medications: new user cohort.

In objective 3 and 4, new user cohort of each ADHD medication will be created at drug substance level, using 365 days washout window.

In objective 5 and 6, new users will be identified using the first record of any of the ADHD medications of interest within the study period, having no previous records for ANY study medication any time prior to entry. The index date will be defined as the date of the first eligible medication record.

Five new user cohorts of the medications licensed for ADHD treatment will be constructed separately: the stimulants dexamphetamine, lisdexamfetamine, and methylphenidate, and the non-stimulants atomoxetine and guanfacine.

Age groups

Paediatric Population (< 18 years)

Children (2 to < 12 years)

Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)

Adult and elderly population (≥18 years)

Adults (18 to < 65 years)

Adults (18 to < 46 years)

Adults (46 to < 65 years)

Elderly (≥ 65 years)

Adults (65 to < 75 years)

Adults (75 to < 85 years)

Adults (85 years and over)

Study design details

Setting

This study will be conducted using routinely collected data from 6 databases in 5 European countries. All databases were previously mapped to the OMOP CDM.

Documents

Study report

DARWIN EU Report P3-C1-004 ADHD V5.pdf (3.02 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)

Clinical Practice Research Datalink (CPRD) GOLD

Integrated Primary Care Information (IPCI)

The Information System for Research in Primary Care (SIDIAP)

IQVIA Longitudinal Patient Data - Belgium

IQVIA Disease Analyzer Germany

BIFAP - Base de Datos para la Investigación Farmacoepidemiológica en el

Ámbito Público (Pharmacoepidemiological Research Database for Public Health

Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

CDM mapping
Yes
CDM Mappings
CDM name
OMOP
CDM website
https://www.ohdsi.org/Data-standardization/
Data quality specifications Check conformance Unknown
Check completeness Unknown
Check stability Unknown

Check logical consistency

Unknown

Data characterisation

Data characterisation conducted

Unknown