

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON POPULATION-LEVEL DRUG UTILIZATION OF ALENDRONATE IN FIVE EUROPEAN DATABASES

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BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVE

Alendronate [ALN] is the most common osteoporosis medication prescribed in Europe.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, non-urgent visits to primary care were restricted, affecting the initiation of new treatments.

We aimed to describe the effect of COVID-19 on the prescription of ALN to new users in 5 European databases.

METHODS



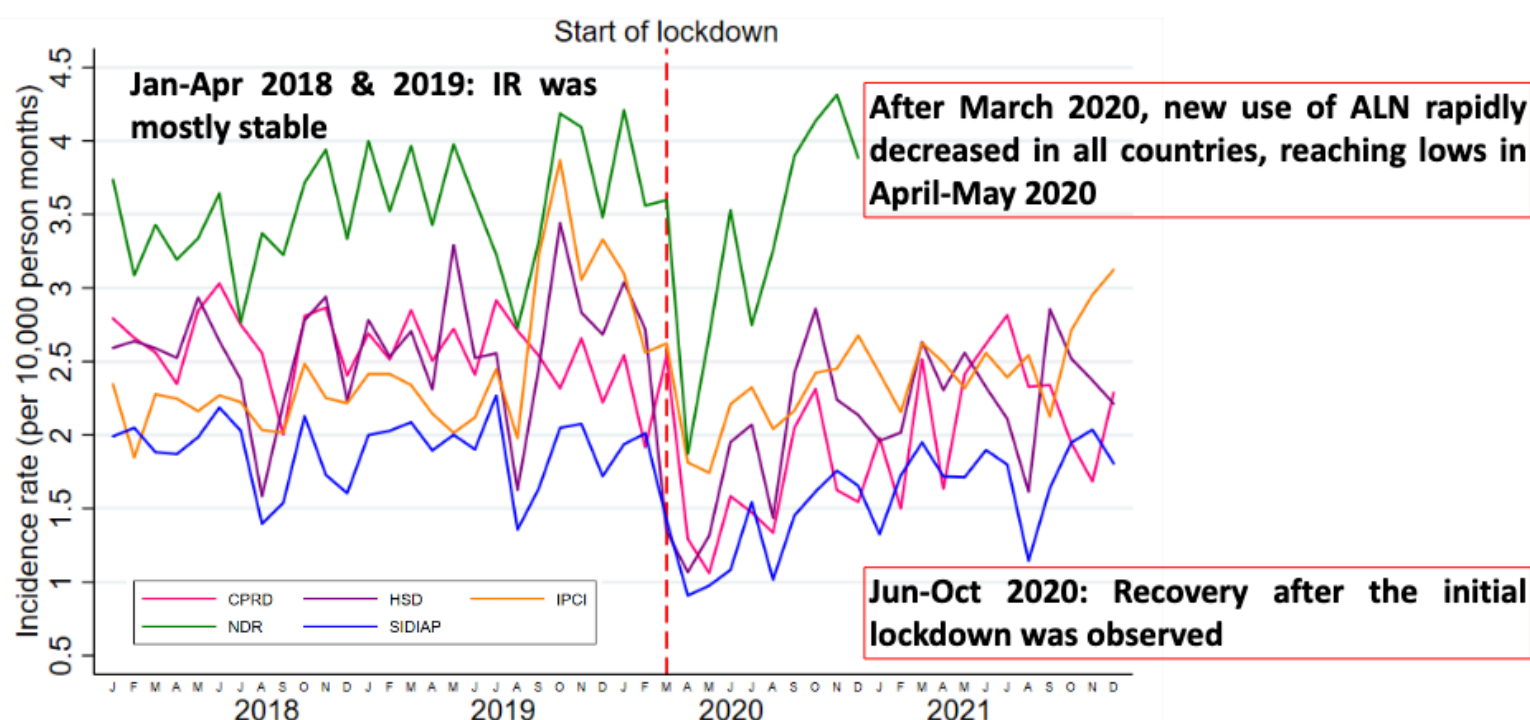
Patients aged ≥ 18 years and registered for ≥ 1 year in the following databases:

CPRD (UK), HSD (Italy), IPCI (Netherlands), NDR (Denmark), SIDIAP (Spain)

Monthly incidence rate (IR) =

$$\frac{\text{No. of new users in a calendar month}}{\text{Person – months of patients in the database, who were not users of ALN in the year before the last day of the prior month}}$$

RESULTS



CONCLUSION

Following the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns in March 2020, the initiation of ALN declined in the immediate months after lockdown in 5 European countries.

However, recovery to pre-pandemic use was observed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This project was funded by UCB Pharma and Amgen Inc.



CPRD: Clinical Practice Research Datalink; HSD: Health Search Database; IPCI: Integrated Primary Care Information Project; NDR: Nationwide linked Danish Registries; SIDIAP: Sistema d'Informació per al Desenvolupament de la Investigació en Atenció Primària