

OPERATIONAL SAVINGS STRATEGIES IN A COMPREHENSIVE CARE PROGRAM FOR PATIENTS WITH IMMUNODEFICIENCIES





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Immunoglobulin replacement therapy (IgRT) is a crucial but costly treatment for patients with immunodeficiencies. This study explores the economic savings achieved through optimization strategies in a comprehensive care program, including dose adjustments, therapy discontinuation, and switching to more cost-effective treatments, while ensuring effective disease management.

Objective

To describe the savings generated by the rational use of immunoglobulin replacement therapy (IgRT) in a comprehensive care program for patients with immunodeficiencies.

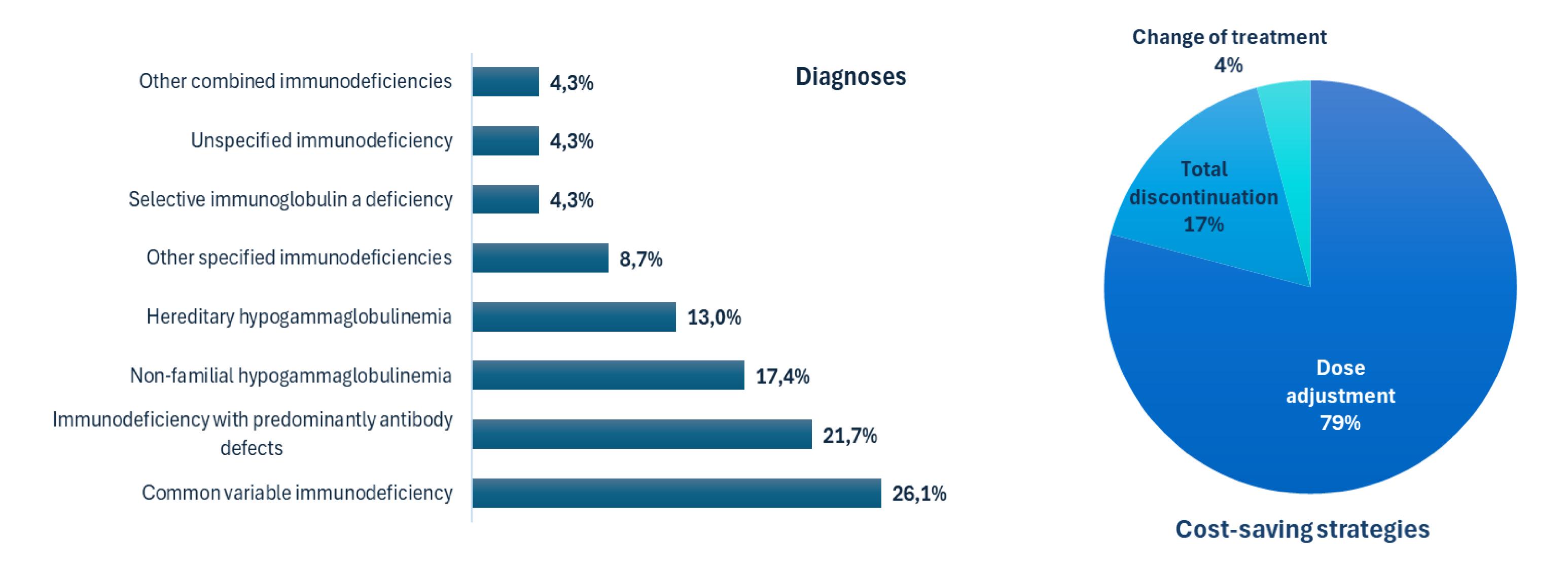
Method

A descriptive cross-sectional study in patients who attended Helpharma IPS between March 2023 - May 2024.

Patients were evaluated by a team of physicians, immunologists, and pharmacists and established optimization strategies (change to a more economical therapy, decrease in dosage, increase in treatment frequency) or suspension of therapy due to adequate disease control, increase in immunoglobulin levels (IgG > 1000 or in normal ranges for age) and reduction of severe infections. Univariate analysis was performed using the statistical package R Core Team Version 4.2 (2022).

Results

- We identified 794 patients with IgRT of which 24 patients (2.9%) had optimization of therapy.
- Median age was 17 years (RIC 30), 56.5% were female
- The median IgG before optimizing therapy was 1108 mg/dL (RIC 142).



• All patients maintained satisfactory clinical results and a total saving of 59,624 USD was generated.

Conclusion

The IgRT optimization strategies used generate a relevant economic impact while maintaining adequate control of the disease.

Conflict of interest: none.