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Summary

ECONOMIC BURDEN OF MICROSCOPIC COLITIS: A NATIONWIDE COST-OF-ILLNESS STUDY ENCOMPASSING COSTS FOR HEALTH CARE USE AND PRODUCTIVITY LOSSES

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A Swedish registry-based study found that microscopic colitis patients had an annual excess societal cost of $5,628 per patient in 2016, with work loss accounting for more than half the excess cost rather than MC-specific healthcare expenditures.

KEY POINTS

- The study compared 11,530 microscopic colitis patients to 57,117 matched general-population comparators using Swedish health registers as of January 1, 2017.
- Patients with microscopic colitis had a mean annual cost of $11,782 versus $6,170 in comparators, corresponding to an adjusted excess cost of $5,628 per patient.
- Work loss was the largest cost driver accounting for 57.7% of excess costs, followed by hospitalizations at 18.1%, medications at 13.4%, and outpatient visits at 12.6%.
- MC-specific healthcare costs including colonoscopies, MC-related outpatient visits, and MC-related hospitalizations were negligible, with the authors suggesting excess healthcare costs are likely driven by concomitant disease.
- The total annual societal cost of microscopic colitis in Sweden was $135.9 million in 2016, with $64.7 million attributable to MC and MC-comorbidity in a population with approximately 0.1% prevalence.

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