THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF USTEKINUMAB IN THE TREATMENT OF INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE: A TARGETED LITERATURE REVIEW

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A targeted literature review of 12 economic studies found that ustekinumab, despite clinical efficacy in inflammatory bowel disease, is among the highest-cost biologics with low cost-effectiveness probabilities across multiple payer perspectives.

KEY POINTS

- The review analyzed 12 economic studies from various payer perspectives (US, Japanese, Canadian, Swedish, Polish, French, and German) evaluating ustekinumab in Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis populations
- Only two studies (Polish and Swedish perspectives in anti-TNF-failure Crohn's disease patients) found ustekinumab cost-effective; most studies showed it was dominated by other biologics including vedolizumab and infliximab based on incremental cost-effectiveness ratios
- Ustekinumab had the highest cost per responder or remitter compared to other therapies in Japanese and US analyses, and German and Canadian studies found zero probability of cost-effectiveness at current willingness-to-pay thresholds
- No studies evaluated ustekinumab biosimilars, which the authors suggest could improve cost-effectiveness and expand patient access as the economic burden of inflammatory bowel disease increases globally

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