

COMOESTAS

Continuous Monitoring of Medication Overuse Headache in Europe and Latin America: development and standardisation of an alert and decision support system

COMOESTAS aims to develop an innovative ICT system that allows patients with Medication Overuse Headache (MOH), a common condition and a major cause of disability, to receive continuous and personalised treatment. The system will be based on an advanced Alerting and Decision Support System that follows patients from the diagnosis and supports the physician in managing the therapy, controlling relevant events impacting on patient safety.

Objectives

COMOESTAS is an e-health project funded by the European Commission, started in January 2008 and conceived with the aim of offering an innovative approach to MOH (Medication Overuse Headache).

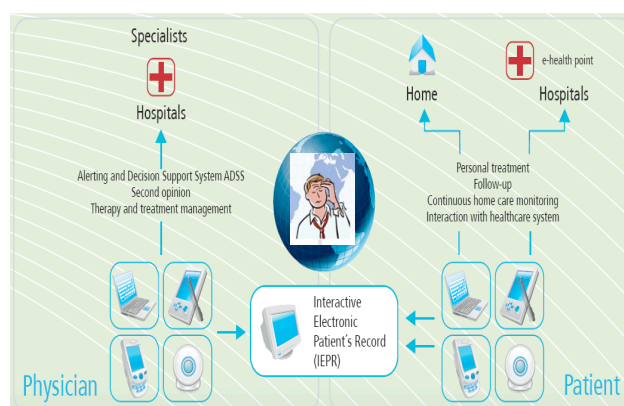
The final version of the informatic tool, called Interactive Electronic Patient's Record (IEPR), has been released in March 2009. IEPR is an "all-in-one" system that integrates people involved in the network, through:

- The electronic patient's data record that helps defining the diagnosis, the process of detoxification and the subsequent therapy;
- The MOH electronic diary that allows monitoring of patients and is supported by an alert/alarm system;
- Calendar tools, video conferencing, chat and mails that enable physicians to consult other health specialists and optimize their interaction with patients.

Project Description

The innovative approach proposed by Comoestas is based on a complex interactive system, which constitutes an "all-in-one" solution that will allow constant monitoring of the clinical condition of the patient by the doctor and provide a system of alerts and warnings should selected parameters exceed given thresholds. The system is also designed for improving the patient-doctor communication.

The study plan is based on the comparison of the performance of the IEPR-supported approach to MOH versus the classic approach.



Work in Progress

Enrolment in the classic approach has been completed.

The pilot validation of the beta version of the IEPR was successfully completed in Spring 2009.

The final version of IEPR has been made available to all partners, with customized sections for national language.

All the clinical centres are actively enrolling patients in the IEPR arm of the clinical protocol.

The website (<http://www.comoestas-project.eu>) has been rearranged in a more user-friendly version.

The e-learning training has been successfully completed.

Two reviews on MOH epidemiology and MOH management have been published in an international indexed scientific journal (The Journal of Headache and Pain).

Expected Results and Impacts

In an interim analysis of the first 355 included patients in the traditional arm, we found that 149 subjects have completed the study and their frequency of headache was reduced by more than 50%. A preliminary analysis of patients from the IEPR arm suggests that the system grants a better follow-up, an improved communication with doctors and a better management of drug treatment.



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- Consorzio di Bioingegneria e Informatica Medica (Italy)
- Region Hovedstaden, Glostrup Amtssygehuset (Denmark)
- Universitaetsklinikum Essen (Germany)
- Fundación para la Lucha contra las Enfermedades Neurológicas de la Infancia (Argentina)
- Ministerio de la Salud de la Provincia de Buenos Aires (Argentina)
- Fundación ISALUD (Argentina)
- Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Chile)
- Fundación de la Comunidad Valenciana para la Investigación Biomédica, la Docencia y la Cooperación Internacional y para el Desarrollo del Hospital Clínico Universitario De Valencia (Spain)
- CF consulting s.r.l. (Italy)

Timetable: from January 2008 to June 2010

Total cost: € 2,013,469

EC funding: € 1,600,000

Instrument: STREP

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KEYWORDS

Patient safety, Decision support system, IEPR approach, Medication Overuse Headache, Personalised care