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## Cost-minimization analysis of sublingual immunotherapy versus subcutaneous immunotherapy for house dust mite respiratory allergic disease in Denmark.

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### Abstract

**Objectives** Currently, patients with persistent moderate-to-severe house dust mite (HDM) allergic rhinitis despite use of symptom-relieving medication can be offered subcutaneously administered allergy **immunotherapy** (SQ SCIT; Alutard SQ) as standard care of treatment in Denmark. Recently, a HDM sublingually administered allergy **immunotherapy** tablet (SQ SLIT-tablet; ACARIZAX) has been developed for at-home treatment. The purpose of this **analysis** is to compare the **costs** related to treatment and administration of SQ SLIT-tablet and SQ SCIT. **Methods** Assuming equal efficacy between the SQ SLIT-tablet and SQ SCIT, the **cost-minimization analysis** was the most appropriate for the comparison. According to guidelines and Summary of Product Characteristics, the treatment duration of SQ SLIT-tablet is 3 years and 3-5 years for SQ SCIT. The courses of treatment vary among patients and, therefore, the **costs** of treatment have been calculated for an average patient with HDM respiratory allergic disease (RAD) receiving either SQ SLIT-tablet or SQ SCIT. All **costs** associated with allergy **immunotherapy** were collected, i.e., **cost** of medication, administration and treatment setting, and discounted according to Danish guidelines. Comprehensive univariate sensitivity analyses were carried out. **Results** The treatment **costs** for an average patient with HDM RAD are €3089 for SQ SLIT-tablet and €3808 for SQ SCIT; however, when adding indirect **costs** to the calculations the total **costs** of the treatments are €3693 and €6730 for SQ SLIT-tablet and SQ SCIT, respectively. Therefore, if 2500 patients with HDM RAD were treated with SQ SLIT-tablet instead of SQ SCIT, it would elicit a saving to the healthcare system of ~€1.8 million. The conclusion was robust to any changes in the sensitivity **analysis**. **Conclusion** With regards to the **cost** of treating Danish patients with HDM RAD, it is clearly **cost-saving** to treat patients with SQ SLIT-tablet compared to SQ SCIT.

**KEYWORDS:** Allergy **immunotherapy**; **Cost-minimization**; HDM sublingually administered allergy **immunotherapy** tablet; House dust mite

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