

039

REVIEW OF PRESCRIBING PATTERNS OF EPOETIN AND DARBEPOETIN IN THE OUPATIENT ONCOLOGY POPULATION (B1), Alice Wang, Emi Minejima, Susan Wilson, John Adamson, Beatriz Batarse. UC San Diego Medical Center, San Diego, CA (acw009@ucsd.edu) IRB approval received.

Safety concerns for the use of erythropoietin stimulating agents (ESAs) in chemotherapy-induced anemia (CIA) led to strengthened FDA boxed warnings and to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) implementation of the national coverage decision (NCD) to these agents. Additionally, the boxed warnings precipitated NCCN/ASCO/ASH (hematology/oncology societies) to update guidelines for standards of care. In an effort to promote safe medication use and ensure proper reimbursement for ESAs, UCSD Medical Center (UCSDMC) guidelines for ESA use in CIA were revised to reflect these changes. The objective of this study is to compare the prescribing patterns of epoetin alfa and darbepoetin alfa prior to and after the implementation of UCSDMC guidelines. The needed sample size was determined from the baseline results and is estimated to be 137 patient charts. Retrospectively, the charts of patients prescribed ESAs at UCSDMC's outpatient cancer center were reviewed to determine baseline prescribing patterns. After approval and implementation of the revised UCSDMC guidelines by the P&T Committee, another set of patient charts will be analyzed for prescriber adherence to UCSDMC and CMS guidelines. A multiple logistic

regression analysis will be used to determine those factors associated with adherence to guidelines prior to and after UCSDMC guideline implementation. The results of the study are pending and will be discussed.