

Economic Impact of Disease

It has been documented that the numbers of people with arthritis and rheumatic conditions is on the rise. If the trend continues, there will likely be over XX xxxx individuals with these conditions by XXXX. This increased prevalence will have a larger economic toll on the nation than increased medical expenditures or individual earnings losses because of the diseases.

Recent survey results garnered from the American Rheumatology Association demonstrated that between 1997 and 2003, the prevalence of arthritis and other rheumatic conditions in the United States increased from XX xxxx adults to XX xxxx adults (XX percent of the population). This increase in numbers resulted in expenditures for medications to treat these conditions to double. Both the average number of prescriptions and the average cost of prescriptions xxxxxx (from \$XX to \$XX). However, inpatient hospital expenditures xxxxxx from \$XX to \$XX per person, so the average total spent on medical care for an individual with arthritis remained relatively stable: \$XX in 1997 and \$XX in 2003.

In 2003, Americans spent a total of \$XX xxxx on medical care for arthritis, compared with \$XX xxxx in 1997. Researchers attributed this xxxx wholly to the increase in the number of persons 18 years and older with arthritis.

Earnings also suffered due to the disease with individuals afflicted with arthritis and rheumatism earning an average of \$XX less than healthy working adults between the ages of 18 and 64. Nationwide, earnings losses due to arthritis and RA totaled \$XX xxxx, XXXX from \$XX xxxx in 1997.

Part of the reason for the increase is indeed the rise in the number of individuals that have sought treatment for the disease. But the other reason, and maybe the most important reason is that individuals are increasingly using the newer biologic agents such as Humira, Enbrel, and Orencia. These products are very expensive drugs are driving up the amounts of money spent on drugs in this category. However, there is definitely a cost to the individuals and to the public in general for this disease in terms of loss of productivity, loss wages and higher healthcare costs.

Table 4-6

The World Market for Prescription Lupus Treatments, by Product Type, 2004-2011

Year	Non-steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs), Corticosteroids, and Other Treatments	Biologic Treatments	Total	Percent Change
2004				-
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009				
2010				
2011				

Compound Annual Growth Rate

Period	CAGR
2004-2006	
2006-2011	
2004-2011	

*Sales represent estimated percent use for lupus treatment only, including off-label use.

Source: Kalorama Information