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Abuse-Deterrent Opioids The Cost

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By Wayne Winegarden, Ph.D.

States across the country are considering 1
opioids. And, for good reason.

Opioid abuse has, arguably, become the la
abuse of pain medications results from far
legally prescribed to another family memb
costs, economic costs, and criminal justice
human costs are even greater.

Across the country, more than 16 thousand
involving pain medications, and 1 in 20 pe
using prescription pain medicines for non

Although opioid abuse is a major problem
millions of Americans every year. Many pe
time, while others who suffer from chronic

Chronic pain is a debilitating and costly affair each year. It is, therefore, imperative that opioid therapy have access to the medicines they have been approved in the last year.

A new technology, referred to as abuse-deterrent formulations, designed to reduce the abuse of opioids while maintaining their effectiveness for pain therapy have access to the medicines they have been approved in the last year.

The initial results from this new technology are promising.

Being an innovative medicine, abuse-deterrent formulations (both branded and generic) are currently under development. Abuse-deterrent formulations have been available in both branded and generic versions.

Prescribing abuse-deterrent opioids implies a shift from lower-priced generic drugs to higher-price branded versions of abuse-deterrent formulations. This raises the question: are the current higher prices for abuse-deterrent opioids justified?

Based on a new study I authored for [Economic](#), this study examines whether abuse-deterrent opioids are worth the current higher expenses enough to justify the current higher expenses.

The benefit abuse-deterrent opioids provide to patients, human, health, and economic costs associated with these costs, abuse-deterrent medicines emerge as a more typical method opioid abusers will use. For abuse-deterrent formulations that maintain their extended

Other formulations will release an agent that release an agent that creates un-pleasant side effects when the opioid is used.

A study that examined the impact from an reduced abuse of opioids by 18 percent among commercially insured patients. In total, \$1.5 billion in benefits – the benefits being a re increase in workplace productivity, and higher crime rates due to abuse.

The EconoSTATS study then compared the cost of abuse-deterrent opioids. The study compared the cost of abuse-deterrent opioids on a per patient basis, and adjusting for the cost of the drug, the total annual benefits created by a switch to abuse-deterrent opioids. Patented opioids only cost between \$600 and \$1,000 annually, depending upon the assumption of the number of prescriptions filled.

Therefore, the use of abuse-deterrent opioids (minus the additional costs) of between \$1,000 and \$1,500 annually.

Further research is still necessary due to the positive net benefit found by the EconoSTATS study. Abuse-deterrent opioids are an important advancement in the treatment of abuse of opioid pain medications.

Such advancements are crucial not only because they reduce the risk of addiction. These advancements also ensure that the patients have access to the medicines they need.

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