Osteoarthritis: Disease Burden and Unmet Patient Needs

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Osteoarthritis: Disease Burden

- Most common musculoskeletal disease in USA

- Prevalence of symptomatic osteoarthritis
  - 12.1% of general population
  - >21,000,000 patients
  - Projected increase with aging population

- Decrease in function and Quality of Life


Treatments Options
ACR Osteoarthritis Guidelines

- Non pharmacologic – Large range of options each with small-moderate benefit

- Pharmacologic
  - Acetaminophen
  - Nonselective NSAID with or without misoprostol or a proton pump inhibitor
  - COX-2 selective inhibitor
  - Nonacetylated salicylates
  - Pure analgesics – tramadol, opioids
  - Intraarticular injections
  - Topical Agents – Capsaicin, Methylsalicylate

- No universally effective pharmacologic therapy

- Benefit risk ratio varies with each option

Considerations for Choice of Pharmacologic Treatment


- NSAIDs and COX-2 selective inhibitors have greater efficacy, and toxicity, than acetaminophen\(^1,2\)

- Only 27% - 42% of patients at risk of upper GI complications receive gastroprotective therapy\(^3,4\)

- Failed adherence to gastroprotective therapy is a serious problem in preventing GI complications.

Unmet Needs with Current OA Treatments

- High levels of dissatisfaction with current therapy
  - 73% of general practitioners
  - 63% of patients

- Trials with multiple agents often required
  - 53% of OA patients switch to a second NSAID within first 2 months
    - Most common reason (33%) = Lack of efficacy
    - Second most common (13%) = Adverse events
  - Switching less common with selective COX-2 inhibitors

- Critical need for additional OA treatments

Conclusions

- OA is a common, serious and disabling disease that is a growing problem.

- While current therapy provides some relief to OA patients, significant dissatisfaction persists.

- The addition of new agents, even with similar mechanisms of action, has the potential to provide additional relief for many OA patients.