

UTHAI MUANGSRIMUENGDEE : COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS OF TREATMENT OF AIDS RELATED COMPLEX WITH ZIDOVUDINE. THESIS ADVISOR : PROF. SOMKID KAEWSONTHI, THESIS CO-ADVISOR : ASSIST. PROF. MATTHANA HANVANID.
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The purpose of this thesis was to compare the cost-effectiveness of treating AIDS patients with or without zidovudine. Study was conducted at Chulalongkorn Hospital. The samples of 110 HIV positive patients was divided into two groups; a study group of 66 patients who received zidovudine and a control group of 44 patients who did not receive zidovudine. Patients were assigned to the study or control group based upon matching criteria.

The result of the study showed that the annual cost per case of zidovudine treatment group was Baht 111,729. The cost incurred by the provider was Baht 1,234 (1.10%), and the cost incurred each consumer was Baht 110,495 (98.0%). The average costs incurred by each consumer were zidovudine drug, Baht 69,300 (62.72%), other drugs Baht 3,244 (2.94%), laboratory cost, Baht 9,534 (8.63%), X-rays cost, Baht 768 (0.69%) and other cost, Baht 27,647 (25.02%). The annual cost per case for patients in the control group without zidovudine treatment was Baht 52,105. The cost incurred by the provider was Baht 1,591 (3.05%), and the average cost incurred by each consumer was Baht 50,513 (96.95%). The average cost incurred by each consumer was drugs, Baht 3,491 (6.77%), laboratory cost, Baht 10,119 (20.03%), X-rays cost, Baht 1,324 (2.62%) and others cost, 35,578 (70.43%).

In terms of percentage effectiveness, zidovudine therapy help to delay the onset of AIDS in the ARC group by 65.2%. One unit of effectiveness in delaying the progression of the HIV diseases cost Baht 1,713. The years of life saved in the treated group for one year of treatment was 16.06 man-year. The cost per one man-year was Baht 459,162. The years of life saved when all the patients on the study group receive continuous treatment with zidovudine drug was 140.70 man-year. The cost per one man-year life saved in the study group was Baht 671,357. The life years gain when each patients received the drug for one year was 0.24 years and 2.13 man-year when is receipt of continuous treatment. Zidovudine drug decreased the opportunistic infection rate by 27.4%.

The study can be conducted that the use of zidovudine therapy in AIDS patient is extremely expensive, particularly the cost of drugs. It is very unlikely that the government can afford to provide zidovudine therapy without user charge. Therefore, the zidovudine therapy may be provided to patient who has ability and willingness to pay under full information of the level of zidovudine effectiveness.