

EVALUATION OF INTRAVENOUS IMMUNOGLOBULIN USE IN AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES: ARE PRESCRIPTIONS ALIGNED WITH CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS?

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

- Intravenous immunoglobulins (IVIg) are widely used in autoimmune and immune-mediated diseases.
- Their **high cost and limited availability** require **rational and evidence-based use**.
- Regulatory agencies define **approved indications**, but **off-label use remains common**.



Actual Use



Approved Indications

AIM AND OBJECTIVES



To assess the **appropriateness of IVIg prescriptions** in autoimmune diseases according to national regulatory indications.

Analyse **treatment duration**, evaluate **clinical response**, assess **adverse effects** and identify **prescribing medical specialties**

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- **Observational and retrospective study** from January 2020 – December 2024..
- All patients who initiated IVIg therapy.
- Data collected from **electronic records** and **pharmacy software**:



RESULTS

Study population (n=98):

50% female  50% male 



Mean age: 61±18.3 years

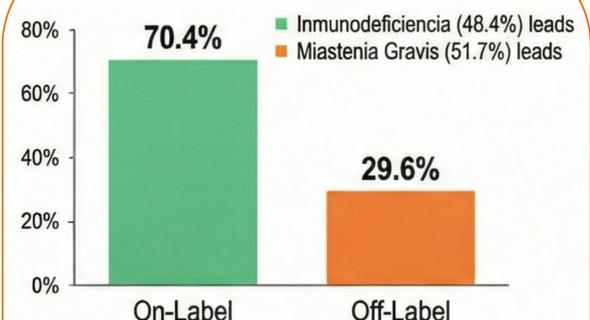
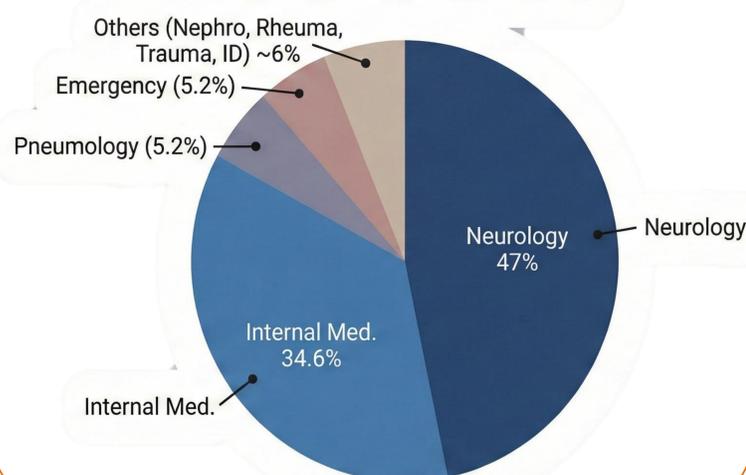


Mean weight: 75.2±16.6 kg



Mean tx duration: 3.1±5 days

PRESCRIBING DEPARTMENTS



Safety was high, with reactions limited to mild headaches, paresthesia, and rashes.



CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

- ✓ Most IVIg prescriptions were **consistent with approved indications (70%)**, possibly influenced by drug shortages.
- ✓ **Off-label use was frequent**, mainly in conditions with supporting evidence (e.g., myasthenia gravis).
- ✓ IVIg showed **favourable clinical outcomes**, including off-label use.
- ✓ **Good safety profile**, with only mild adverse effects.

