Cost Effectiveness and Cost Benefit of Viral Hepatitis B Vaccination in the Slovak Republic

Hudečková H.¹, Straka Š.², Szilágyiová M.³, Avdičová M.⁴, Rusňáková Š.⁵:

¹ Department of Epidemiology, State Health Institute, Martin
² Institute of Epidemiology, Jessenius Faculty of Medicine, Comenius University, Martin
³ Department of Infectious Diseases, Faculty Hospital, Martin
⁴ Department of Epidemiology, State Health Institute, Banská Bystrica
⁵ Private Clinic for Children and Adolescents, Martin, Slovak Republic

Summary

In our work we tried to evaluate the cost effectiveness (CEA) and cost benefit (CBA) of the vaccination strategy of viral hepatitis B (VHB) vaccination in Slovakia. Retrospectively we analysed the incidence of VHB before and after the vaccination against VHB. From the calculated yearly cost (direct and indirect) - treatment costs and vaccination costs - we tried to calculate the estimated financial costs of vaccination strategy in 2000 (89.4 mil. SK), the saved costs (92 mil. SK), cost effectiveness (201 642 SK) and cost benefit (2.70 SK).

First a decrease of the incidence (after introduction of measures to prevent nosocomial transmission) had been achieved by vaccination of selected risk groups of the population. A significant positive impact on the incidence of VHB is expected from mass preventive vaccination of infants, introduced in Slovakia in 1998.

Keywords: incidence of VHB, VHB vaccination, cost effectiveness analysis (CEA), cost benefit analysis (CBA), saved costs

Address for correspondence: H. Hudečková, Dpt. of Epidemiology, State Health Institute, Kuzmányho 27, 036 80 Martin, Slovak Republic