

**TABLE e-2. ESTIMATED COSTS FOR A 14-DAY COURSE OF ACTH AND PREDNISOLONE**

| Dose   | Cost for 1-day | Cost for 14 days |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| <b>ADRENOCORTICOTROPIC HORMONE (ACTH)</b>    |                |                  |
| <b>ACTH 50 IU (3 month-old)</b>              | \$5,980        | \$83,720         |
| <b>ACTH 60 IU (6 month-old)</b>              | \$7,176        | \$100,464        |
| <b>ACTH 70 IU (10 month-old)</b>             | \$8,371        | \$117,194        |
| <b>Prednisolone</b>                          |                |                  |
| <b>Prednisolone 40 mg/day (3 month-old)</b>  | \$12           | \$168            |
| <b>Prednisolone 50 mg/day (6 month-old)</b>  | \$15           | \$210            |
| <b>Prednisolone 60 mg/day (10 month-old)</b> | \$18           | \$252            |

All prices rounded to the nearest integer.

**Explanation:** Using wholesale prices for ACTH and prednisolone we calculated typical doses for a 3-month, 6-month, and 10-month old infant using their typical weight and body surface. These ages are the minimum, likeliest, and maximum ages of an approximate triangular distribution that represents well the age at which infantile spasms are treated <sup>1</sup>. The cost for intramuscular ACTH was estimated based on a dose of 150 IU/m<sup>2</sup>/day. The cost for oral prednisolone was estimated based on a dose of 4-8 mg/Kg/day.

The price of intramuscular ACTH and oral prednisolone in the USA was estimated from Lexicomp <sup>2,3</sup>, and confirmed that the consumer prices were within the right range with Drugs.com <sup>4</sup>, DrugBank <sup>5</sup>, and local retailer pharmacies.

**Legend: ACTH:** Adrenocorticotrophic hormone. **\$:** USA dollar.

## REFERENCES

1. Berg AT, Chakravorty S, Koh S, et al. Why West? Comparisons of clinical, genetic and molecular features of infants with and without spasms. PloS one 2018;13:e0193599.
2. Lexicomp. Prednisolone (systemic). URL: <https://online.lexi.com/>. Last accessed: March, 6, 2020 [online].
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5. Wishart DS, Feunang YD, Guo AC, et al. DrugBank 5.0: a major update to the DrugBank database for 2018. URL: <https://www.drugbank.ca/>. Nucleic Acids Res 2017;Nov 8.