

Gabapentin utilization among older adults with different cognitive statuses enrolled in the National Alzheimer’s Coordinating Center (2006-2019)

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Abstract

This study aimed to examine gabapentin utilization trends among older adults with different cognitive statuses and investigate concurrent medication use of potentially inappropriate medications. Data were extracted from National Alzheimer’s Coordinating Center Uniform Data Set (2006-2019). We estimated the yearly prevalence of gabapentin use, both overall and within subgroups defined by cognitive status [normal, mild cognitive impairment, and dementia] and demographics [age and sex] for participants aged 65+. Additionally, we assessed the prevalence of concurrent use of gabapentin with opioids, combined opioids and benzodiazepine, antidepressant, and antipsychotic. Participants reported gabapentin use increased from 2006 to 2019 in both overall and every participant subgroup. About 10-30% of gabapentin users reported to concurrently use of opioids, and more than 50% gabapentin users with dementia reported to concurrently use gabapentin with antidepressants. Given increasing use among older adults, rigorous studies are needed to examine the safety of gabapentin in this population.

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