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# Undertreatment of overactive bladder among men with lower urinary tract symptoms in the United States: A retrospective observational study

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#### Abstract

**Aims:** To characterize the epidemiology and treatment patterns of adult men  $(\geq 40 \text{ years})$  diagnosed with, or treated for, overactive bladder (OAB) and/or benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).

**Methods:** This retrospective observational study used data extracted from the IBM MarketScan Commercial Claims and Encounters database and the Medicare Supplemental Coordination of Benefits database. Men with BPH and/or OAB were identified and observed to assess treatment and diagnostic patterns.

**Results:** Within the entire study sample (N = 462 400), BPH diagnosis (61.5%) and BPH treatment (73.7%) were more common than the corresponding values for OAB (25.8% and 7.0%, respectively). Notably, among diagnosed individuals, the dispensation of a corresponding treatment was more likely in individuals diagnosed with BPH (183 672 out of 284 416 = 64.6%) compared with OAB (16 468 out of 119 236 = 13.8%). Among newly diagnosed and/or treated patients (n = 196 576), only 60.3% received treatment. Among treated patients, most experienced only a single type of treatment (93.4%), 6.6% went on to receive a secondary treatment and 3.5% a tertiary. The most common primary treatment was alpha-blocker monotherapy (76.9%) followed by tadalafil monotherapy (16.4%). Among those untreated at first diagnosis, the median time between diagnosis and treatment initiation was 128 days.

**Conclusions:** Diagnosis and management of OAB among males are challenging given the inherent overlap in symptoms observed with BPH. Unsurprisingly, we found that BPH is diagnosed and treated more frequently than OAB; but the differences between diagnosis and treatment patterns for the two conditions highlight the potential undertreatment of OAB and misdirection of therapy for men with a combination of voiding and storage symptoms.

#### **KEYWORDS**

benign prostatic hyperplasia, epidemiology, lower urinary tract symptoms, overactive bladder

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# **1** | INTRODUCTION

Lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS), an umbrella term for a constellation of urinary storage and voiding problems, is prevalent among men, increases in frequency with age, and is associated with a decrease in quality of life.<sup>1-3</sup> Previously, LUTS in men was thought to be primarily a result of prostate obstruction, given that the age-related increase in the prevalence of both LUTS and benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) occurs in tandem.<sup>4</sup> Historically, both irritative and obstructive symptoms observed in men were attributed to BPH; however, it is now recognized that the irritative symptoms are due to overactive bladder (OAB), a condition that is defined as urinary urgency that occurs with or without incontinence.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, while OAB was previously thought to predominately affect females, epidemiologic studies indicate that the overall prevalence is equal between both sexes (16.0% and 16.9% among adult men and women, respectively).<sup>6-8</sup> Despite this, participants in clinical studies of OAB are disproportionately female,<sup>9</sup> which may limit the generalizability of findings.<sup>9</sup>

The diagnosis of LUTS etiology in men is complicated by the frequent concurrence of storage and voiding problems, which makes it difficult to discern BPH from OAB.<sup>3,10</sup> While BPH is predominately associated with voiding problems, including urinary hesitancy and a poor and/or intermittent stream, storage problems that are the hallmark of OAB, including frequent urination, urgency, nocturia, and the sensation of incomplete bladder emptying, may also occur.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, it is likely that some cases of LUTS due to OAB may be attributed incorrectly to BPH and vice versa.<sup>11</sup> However, the etiology is often not distinguished in the clinical setting and a more broad diagnosis of LUTS is given.

Failure to determine to what degree prostate pathology, bladder dysfunction, or both contribute to LUTS in men can have important implications for treatment outcomes.<sup>10</sup> When BPH is suspected, alpha-blockers such as tamsulosin hydrochloride, often are used as a primary therapy for LUTS.<sup>12</sup> However, these therapies may fail to alleviate OAB-induced storage symptoms.<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, treatment uptake for LUTS is low, particularly when OAB is suspected; only an estimated 19% of men with OAB are prescribed medications compared with 60% of men with BPH.<sup>11</sup> This could be due in part to an underappreciation of OAB in men, particularly given the higher prevalence of BPH (>50% of men aged 60 and older are affected),<sup>13</sup> as well as the disproportionate use of BPH therapies when storage symptoms are predominant.

Previous studies have assessed the real-world diagnosis and treatment patterns associated with BPH and OAB in men.<sup>6,11,14,15</sup> However, no attempts have been made to characterize a population of males with LUTS secondary to BPH and/or OAB, both in terms of observed diagnoses and subsequent treatment sequencing. This perspective would allow for a better understanding of how men with LUTS are diagnosed and treated in a realworld setting, particularly given that most men present with both storage and voiding symptoms. Therefore, the overarching objective of this study was to characterize the epidemiology and treatment patterns of adult men (aged 40 years and older) diagnosed with, or treated for, BPH and/or OAB (collectively referred to as LUTS). The specific aims included: (a) to characterize patterns of treatment and diagnoses among men with LUTS and (b) to summarize baseline clinical and demographic characteristics of men with LUTS.

# 2 | METHODS

# 2.1 Databases

This retrospective observational study used data extracted from the IBM MarketScan Commercial Claims and Encounters database (Commercial) and the Medicare Supplemental Coordination of Benefits (Medicare supplemental) database from 2012 until the end of 2017. The Commercial database contains longitudinal medical and drug information, including paid amounts, for several million individuals (including spouses and dependents) across multiple employer-sponsored private health insurance plans. The Medicare supplemental database contains similar information for seniors with Medicare supplemental insurance through employers and includes approximately three million individuals annually.

# 2.2 | Study design

Eligibility was determined during the first 24 months of the 2013 to 2017 study period. To meet the inclusion criteria, individuals were required to have at least one inpatient code, and/or two outpatient codes and/or one medication claim(s) specific to OAB and/or BPH (Supporting Information Tables A1 and A2). Individuals were excluded if they had a record of any of the following during the study period: neurogenic bladder/neurogenic detrusor overactivity, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury, malignant neoplasm, renal impairment, hepatic insufficiency, trauma, or organ transplantation based on diagnosis codes. The date of the first OAB- or BPH-related International Classification of Disease Version 9 diagnosis codes (ICD-9) and/or fill for 1380

an OAB- or BPH-specific medication was defined as the index date.

The overall LUTS cohort of men was identified using previously used ICD-9 and/or medication claims for OAB and BPH. ICD-9 codes for OAB included 788.3, 788.31, 788.33, 788.37, 788.41, 788.43, 788.63, and 788.91<sup>16-19</sup>; medications for OAB included darifenacin, fesoterodine, oxybutynin, solifenacin, tolterodine, trospium, and mirabegron. ICD-9 codes for BPH included 596.0, 600,  $600.0\times$ ,  $600.1\times$ ,  $600.2\times$ ,  $600.2\times$ , 600.3,  $600.9\times$ , and  $600.9\times^{11,20}$ ; medications for BPH included terazosin, doxazosin, tamsulosin, alfuzosin, silodosin, dutasteride. and daily tadalafil. Given that ICD-10 codes were introduced into the data set in 2015, and the identification period was between 2013 and 2014, they were not used to identifying individuals with these conditions.

While the overall sample included men from all stages of LUTS management, two subcohorts were identified to assess the study objectives from the perspective of individuals who were newly treated and/or diagnosed. These cohorts included individuals who were treatment naïve ("treatment-patterns cohort") and/or newly diagnosed ("new-LUTS cohort"). Individuals who received pharmacotherapy during the identification or follow-up period but had no record of therapy during the 12-month preindex (baseline) period were assigned to the treatment-patterns cohort; likewise, patients who had no OAB- or BPH-related diagnosis or treatment codes in the baseline period and at least 12 months of post-index follow-up available, were assigned to the new-LUTS cohort. Although these two cohorts were not mutually exclusive and could, therefore, have overlapping membership, they each enabled a distinct assessment of the data that addresses: (a) treatment patterns following initial treatment (treatment-patterns cohort) and (b) treatment patterns following initial diagnosis (new-LUTS cohort).

# 2.3 | Outcomes and analyses

All cohorts (overall LUTS, LUTS with  $\geq 12$  months follow-up post-index, treatment-patterns, and new-LUTS) were characterized based on the demographic data, including age and race, and clinical data, such as the Elixhauser comorbidity score,<sup>21</sup> as well as individual comorbidities. To estimate disease prevalence, the overall LUTS cohort was divided by the total number of men 40 years and older on 1 January 2013 in MarketScan who were observed at any point in time during the identification period (2013-2014). The observed prevalence was subsequently applied to US Census data (2010) to obtain an age-standardized estimate.<sup>22</sup>

Treatment patterns were characterized by pharmacotherapies at the class level, so that within-class treatment switches were considered part of the same primary, secondary, or tertiary therapy. Treatments examined included antimuscarinics, alpha-blockers, tadalafil, the beta-3 receptor agonist mirabegron, and 5-alpha reductase inhibitors. Dose changes were not assessed. The following procedures were also included in the characterization of treatment patterns: onabotulinumtoxinA injection, sacral nerve stimulation, percutaneous tibial nerve stimulation, and BPH surgery. In addition to tabulated data, Sankey charts were used to visualize treatment sequencing. Originally developed as a means to visualize the flow of energy in various networks, Sankey charts are beginning to be used as a tool to graphically represent the complexity of treatment patterns, particularly within oncology.<sup>23</sup>

All outcome variables were summarized by means, SDs, medians, and interquartile ranges (IQRs) for continuous variables and by numbers and percentages for categorical variables.

# 3 | RESULTS

The overall LUTS cohort included 462 400 individuals. Of these, 326 994 had at least 12 months of available followup post-index. The new-LUTS cohort included 196 576 individuals, while the treatment-patterns cohort included 128 951 individuals (118 591 individuals were in both cohorts). Table 1 shows the demographic and clinical characteristics of the four cohorts. Incident patient cohorts (treatment-patterns and new-LUTS) were slightly younger than the overall LUTS cohort (58.0 vs 61.3 years, respectively) and had lower frequencies of almost all comorbidities evaluated, with the exception of depression (7.2% in both the treatment-patterns and overall LUTS cohorts) and obesity (5.5%: treatment-patterns vs 5.4%: overall LUTS). The age-standardized prevalence of LUTS was estimated at 12.2% and is generalizable to a population of commercially insured men aged 40 and older.

# 3.1 | Treatment patterns

Table 1 shows that among the overall LUTS cohort, BPH diagnosis (61.5%) and BPH treatment (ie, medication) (73.7%) were more frequent than the corresponding values for OAB (25.8% and 7.0%, respectively). In Table 2, the co-occurrence of diagnosis and treatment in the overall LUTS cohort is presented. Overall, a higher percentage of individuals received treatment with BPH medication (73.7% of all 
 TABLE 1
 Demographic and clinical characteristics

Characteristic	LUTS (N = 462 400), n (%)	LUTS with 12-mo post-index (N = 326 994), n (%)	Treatment- patterns (N = 128 951), n (%)	New-LUTS (N = 196 576), n (%)
Age Median (Q1-Q3) Mean (95% CI) 40-49 50-59 60-69 70-79 80+ Region of residence Northeast North Central South	61 (54-67) 61.3 (61.3-61.4) 60 118 (13.0) 149 027 (32.2) 157 590 (34.1) 64 913 (14.0) 30 752 (6.7) 93 827 (20.3) 110 006 (23.8) 158 848 (34.4)	60 (54-66) 60.6 (60.6-60.7) 44 632 (13.6) 113 667 (34.8) 107 245 (32.8) 43 026 (13.2) 18 424 (5.6) 69 889 (21.4) 84 850 (25.9) 121 871 (37.3)	57 (51-63) 58.0 (57.9-58.0) 25 890 (20.1) 50 795 (39.4) 36 484 (28.3) 11 380 (8.8) 4402 (3.4) 24 130 (18.7) 32 347 (25.1) 52 056 (40.4)	58 (52-63) 58.5 (58.5-58.5) 34 955 (17.8) 76 768 (39.1) 59 541 (30.3) 18 687 (9.5) 6625 (3.4) 43 756 (22.3) 48 293 (24.6) 74 574 (37.9)
West Unknown	93 291 (20.2) 6428 (1.4)	46 811 (14.3) 3573 (1.1)	19 219 (14.9) 1199 (0.9)	27 932 (14.2) 2021 (1.0)
Type of health care plan Commercial Medicare (supplemental)	312 526 (67.6) 149 874 (32.4)	228 586 (69.9) 98 408 (30.1)	101 628 (78.8) 27 323 (21.2)	152 543 (77.6) 44 033 (22.4)
Elixhauser index score Median (Q1-Q3) Mean (95% CI)	2.00 (1.00-3.00) 2.10 (2.10-2.11)	2.00 (1.00-3.00) 2.04 (2.03-2.04)	2.00 (1.00-3.00) 2.00 (1.99-2.01)	2.00 (1.00-2.00) 1.97 (1.97-1.98)
Most prevalent Elixhauser index comorbidities				
Hypertension, uncomplicated Diabetes, uncomplicated Chronic pulmonary disease Cardiac arrhythmias Depression Hypothyroidism Obesity Peripheral vascular disorders Valvular disease Diabetes, complicated	219 508 (47.5) 88 038 (19.0) 47 110 (10.2) 45 703 (9.9) 33 191 (7.2) 29 970 (6.5) 25 167 (5.4) 24 139 (5.2) 24 035 (5.2) 20 349 (4.4)	151 935 (46.5) 60 909 (18.6) 31 368 (9.6) 30 057 (9.2) 21 892 (6.7) 20 576 (6.3) 16 475 (5.0) 15 386 (4.7) 16 309 (5.0) 12 778 (3.9)	55 253 (42.8) 22 532 (17.5) 11 330 (8.8) 9949 (7.7) 9343 (7.2) 7506 (5.8) 7131 (5.5) 5054 (3.9) 5216 (4.0) 4598 (3.6)	84 113 (42.8) 32 639 (16.6) 16 895 (8.6) 15 368 (7.8) 12 945 (6.6) 11 763 (6.0) 10 165 (5.2) 7837 (4.0) 8630 (4.4) 6652 (3.4)
Diagnostic sequencing OAB Dx only BPH Dx only OAB Dx then BPH Dx BPH Dx then OAB Dx BPH Dx and OAB Dx (on the same day) Never received OAB or BPH diagnosis	30 589 (6.6) 195 769 (42.3) 22 450 (4.9) 43 793 (9.5) 22 404 (4.8) 147 395 (31.9)	21 847 (6.7) 145 043 (44.4) 18 349 (5.6) 37 986 (11.6) 16 540 (5.1) 87 229 (26.7)	8995 (7.0) 42 964 (33.3) 8203 (6.4) 12 850 (10.0) 5926 (4.6) 50 013 (38.8)	20 093 (10.2) 90 657 (46.1) 7753 (3.9) 8495 (4.3) 8909 (4.5) 60 669 (30.9)

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(Continues)

#### **TABLE 1** (Continued)

Characteristic	LUTS (N = 462 400), n (%)	LUTS with 12-mo post-index (N = 326 994), n (%)	Treatment- patterns (N = 128 951), n (%)	New-LUTS (N = 196 576), n (%)
Treatment sequencing				
OAB Rx only	12 943 (2.8)	8272 (2.5)	4259 (3.3)	3909 (2.0)
BPH Rx only	321 342 (69.5)	221 415 (67.7)	117 887 (91.4)	102 120 (51.9)
OAB Rx then BPH Rx	4759 (1.0)	3721 (1.1)	1396 (1.1)	535 (0.3)
BPH Rx then OAB Rx	13 050 (2.8)	10 852 (3.3)	4998 (3.9)	2185 (1.1)
BPH Rx and OAB Rx (on the same day)	1722 (0.4)	1144 (0.3)	411 (0.3)	328 (0.2)
Never treated for OAB or BPH with Rx	108 584 (23.5)	81 590 (25.0)	0 (0.0)	87 499 (44.5)

Abbreviations: BPH, benign prostate hyperplasia; Dx: diagnosis; LUTS, lower urinary tract symptoms; OAB, overactive bladder; Rx: treatment.

LUTS patients [340 873 out of 462 400] and 64.6% of patients with a BPH diagnosis [183 672 out of 284 416]), while a lower percentage of individuals received an OAB medication (7.0% of all LUTS patients [32 474 out of 462 400] and 13.8% of patients with an OAB diagnosis [16 468 out of 119 236]).

**TABLE 2**Co-occurrence of OAB and BPH diagnosis andtreatment, respectively, in the overall LUTS cohort

Diagno	Diagnosis Prescription				
BPH	OAB	BPH	OAB	Ν	%
1	Х	1	Х	120 931	26.2
1	Х	1	1	4711	1.0
1	Х	Х	1	1833	0.4
1	Х	Х	Х	68 294	14.8
1	1	1	Х	48 626	10.5
1	1	1	1	9404	2.0
1	1	Х	1	2805	0.6
1	1	Х	Х	27 812	6.0
Х	1	1	Х	13 852	3.0
Х	1	1	1	1640	0.4
Х	1	Х	1	2619	0.6
Х	1	Х	Х	12 478	2.7
Х	Х	1	Х	137 933	29.8
Х	Х	1	1	3776	0.8
Х	Х	Х	1	5686	1.2
Х	Х	Х	Х		0.0

Abbreviations: BPH, benign prostate hyperplasia; LUTS, lower urinary tract symptoms; OAB, overactive bladder.

With regard to treatment sequences following incident treatment, the majority of individuals in the treatment-patterns cohort experienced only one type of treatment (OAB medication or BPH medication, or OAB + BPH medication) ([128 951-8568]/128 951, or 93.4%) (Figure 1). Among those who received two or more types of treatment, the majority received OAB medication as their secondary treatment (48%), followed by a BPH procedure (24%), BPH medication (17%), and a small proportion moved on to an OAB + BPH combination therapy (10%) (Figure 1). Regarding discontinuations, a higher proportion of men who received alpha-blockers as their primary treatment for LUTS discontinued the treatment altogether (62.4%), compared with men who received either antimuscarinics (55.5%) or mirabegron (47.2%) (data not shown). Among men who received an OAB medication as primary treatment, the proportion either discontinuing (any treatment for LUTS) or moving onto BPH procedure was less for mirabegron compared with antimuscarinics. It is notable that almost half (46.6%) of the patients who discontinued LUTS treatment after primary treatment with alpha-blockers never received a BPH or OAB diagnosis. Among those with a diagnosis, 56.3% only had a BPH diagnosis, 13.8% only had an OAB diagnosis, and 29.9% had both a BPH and an OAB diagnosis (data not shown).

With regard to the assessment of treatment patterns among individuals who did not receive treatment at first diagnosis, the median (IQR: 21-466) time to initiating treatment among individuals in the new-LUTS cohort was 128 days (Table 3). The most common primary treatment received in this cohort was alphablocker monotherapy (76.9%) followed by tadalafil monotherapy (16.4%). Among those who initiated a primary therapy, 12.8% went on to receive a secondary

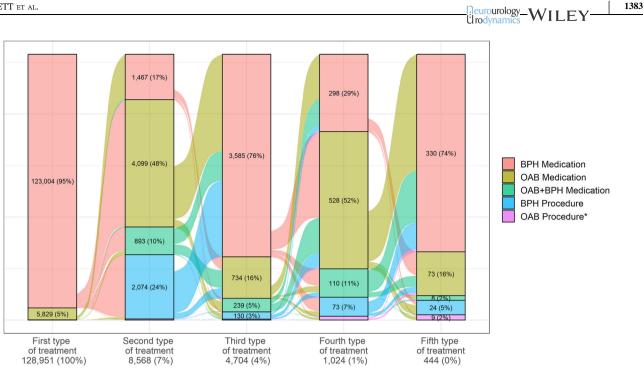


FIGURE 1 Sankey chart of treatment sequencing among (a) BPH Medications, (b) OAB Medications and (c) OAB+BPH Medications in the Treatment-Patterns. BPH, benign prostate hyperplasia; OAB, overactive bladder. \*OAB procedures include onabotulinumtoxinA injection, sacral nerve stimulation, and percutaneous tibial nerve stimulation

therapy and 6.6% a tertiary. Among the new-LUTS patients who went on to receive a secondary therapy, alpha-blocker monotherapy was most frequently (26.0%) observed as secondary therapy, followed closely by antimuscarinics (21.0%).

#### DISCUSSION 4

To the authors' knowledge, this is the first US study that has characterized a commercially insured population of males with LUTS secondary to OAB and BPH, where

TABLE 3 Treatments received by treatment sequence in the new-LUTS cohort

	Sequence of treatment received		
	Primary (N = 118 591)	Secondary (N = 15 237)	Tertiary (N = 7859)
Time from index until treatment initiation, among those untreated at index $(aays)^a$ (N = 107 671)			
Median (Q1-Q3)	128 (21-466)		
Mean (95% CI)	310 (306-315)		
Therapy			
Antimuscarinics (monotherapy)	4765 (4.0)	3204 (21.0)	709 (9.0)
Mirabegron (monotherapy)	364 (0.3)	459 (3.0)	178 (2.3)
Multiple OAB	0 (0)	5 (0.0)	26 (0.3)
OAB procedures (onabotulinumtoxinA, SNS, PTNS)	0 (0)	25 (0.2)	12 (0.2)
Alpha-blockers (monotherapy)	91 167 (76.9)	3967 (26.0)	4960 (63.1)
5-Alpha reductase inhibitors (monotherapy)	2530 (2.1)	1253 (8.2)	355 (4.5)
Tadalafil 2.5 mg or 5 mg (monotherapy)	19 424 (16.4)	2753 (18.1)	854 (10.9)
BPH surgery	0 (0)	1552 (10.2)	211 (2.7)
Multiple BPH	239 (0.2)	1297 (8.5)	330 (4.2)
OAB + BPH	102 (0.1)	722 (4.7)	224 (2.9)

Abbreviations: BPH, benign prostate hyperplasia; CI, confidence interval; LUTS, lower urinary tract symptoms; OAB, overactive bladder; PTNS, percutaneous tibial nerve stimulation; Q, quartile; SNS, sacral neuromodulation.

<sup>a</sup>Patients without corresponding line of therapies are excluded.

individuals were not compartmentalized into either OAB or BPH, but rather described according to observed diagnoses and treatment sequencing. This approach allowed for a better understanding of how males with LUTS are diagnosed and treated according to their suspected underlying condition. Another strength of this study is the use of data from the IBM MarketScan database, which is a large, generalizable US claims data set, well-suited for addressing the study objectives.

In this study, LUTS was of relatively high prevalence among commercially insured men aged 40 and older.<sup>24</sup> Diagnoses for BPH were more frequent than for OAB, which was also reflected in treatment patterns. While the frequency of OAB diagnoses was notably higher than the frequency of OAB treatment, the reverse was true for BPH diagnoses and treatment. Thus, these data indicate that OAB symptoms in men are potentially undertreated. Additionally, when treatments following initial treatment were examined, a large uptake of OAB-specific medications/procedures was observed, potentially indicating that symptoms were originally misdiagnosed and treated as BPH rather than OAB. While it is possible that the frequency of OAB treatment was low due to the use of behavior/physical therapies (consistent with current guidelines), OAB has previously been recognized as an condition.<sup>11,25</sup> underdiagnosed and undertreated Furthermore, these findings may highlight a need for physicians to provide more clarification on determining the best treatments for patients presenting with different LUTS symptoms. With respect to treatment patterns, alpha-blockers were identified as the most frequent primary treatment prescribed in the new-LUTS cohort, which is also aligned with current guidelines. Also, as alpha-blockers are better tolerated than anticholinergics,<sup>26</sup> their frequency was not unexpected.

The age-standardized prevalence estimate reported here (12.2%) falls in the range of other published estimates, which have ranged from 3.5% to 19.0%.7,13,24,27,28 The variation in estimates may be due to a number of reasons. Within studies conducted using administrative and claims data sets, variation in specific LUTS definition and/or study population, and inclusion criteria may result in variability of epidemiological estimates. Secondly, prevalence estimates of OAB and LUTS generated from database studies (which describe populations of patients with treatment-seeking behavior) have been historically lower than cross-sectional studies where LUTS are selfreported.<sup>7,14,27-31</sup> There is evidence that a high proportion of males with LUTS symptoms do not seek medical help<sup>30,32</sup>; these individuals would be captured in a study where the condition is defined based on self-reported symptoms, but not in a study relying on administrative data. Overall, the prevalence estimated here can be

regarded as a more accurate representation of the prevalence of LUTS among commercially insured, treatment-seeking males in the United States.

An important limitation of the present study is that treatment persistence and adherence were not investigated, which limited the ability to assess treatment switching. In this study, a substantially higher proportion of patients who received an OAB therapy as their primary therapy subsequently switched to a BPH therapy compared with patients who first received a BPH therapy and subsequently switched to an OAB therapy. This is consistent with the trends observed in other studies.<sup>15</sup> Our data may be reflective, in part, of current American Urological Association BPH treatment guidelines that lack clarity when providing recommendations on sequencing or combination therapies for men with mixed symptoms. Furthermore, a recent US study found that treatment persistence was higher among those with BPH relative to those with OAB.<sup>11</sup> Therefore, to better characterize the appropriateness and tolerability of OAB and BPH therapies received, it would be of interest to further consider adherence and persistence to therapies, in addition to overall treatment sequencing.

There are limitations inherent to any retrospective analysis using administrative claims data, which include errors that may influence key outcomes, exposures, and control variables. Administrative claims data are collected for billing rather than research purposes, which therefore introduces the potential for misclassification as coding may be driven by reimbursement (rather than clinical) factors. For example, it is possible that patients who presented for erectile dysfunction were misclassified at LUTS, which may have increased the LUTS cohort. A further limitation of administrative claims data is that given that individuals with intermittent health care coverage may have been included, transitions to subsequent types of therapy in the analysis of treatment patterns may have been missed, although this limitation was not expected to have a relevant impact on the study findings. Administrative claims data are also unable to capture the use of behavioral therapies to manage symptoms. Finally, the study findings are reflective of commercially insured individuals and therefore may not be generalizable to noncommercially insured individuals.

In conclusion, diagnosis and management of LUTS among males is challenging, particularly given the inherent overlap in symptoms of BPH and OAB. The analysis conducted here found that, not surprisingly, BPH is diagnosed and treated more frequently than OAB. However, the differential between diagnosis and treatments for the two conditions highlight the potential undertreatment of OAB in this population and warrants further investigation, particularly as experts have begun to acknowledge the etiological complexity of LUTS in men. This study was funded by Astellas Pharma Global Development Inc., medical writing/editorial support was provided by Meagan Harwood, MPH from Broadstreet Health Economics & Outcomes Research and funded by the study sponsor.

### DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

Researchers may request access to anonymized participant-level data, trial-level data, and protocols from Astellas-sponsored clinical trials at www. clinicalstudydatarequest.com. For the Astellas criteria on data sharing, see https://clinicalstudydatarequest.com/ Study-Sponsors/Study-Sponsors-Astellas.aspx.

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#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional supporting information may be found online in the Supporting Information section.

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