

<i>Study title</i>	Drug utilisation study, in five European countries, using cross sectional analysis, to assess the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for its withdrawn ophthalmological and ENT indications among general practitioners, ophtalmologists and ENT specialists
<i>Document title</i>	Study protocol
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<i>Indication</i>	Add-on therapy for the symptomatic treatment of adult patients with stable angina pectoris who are inadequately controlled by or intolerant to first-line antianginal therapies
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PROJECT TITLE:

Drug utilisation study, in five European countries, using cross sectional analysis, to assess the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for its withdrawn ophthalmological and ENT indications among general practitioners, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists

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1. ABBREVIATIONS

ATC	: Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification System
CHMP	: Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use
CI	: Confidence Interval
DHPC	: Direct Healthcare Professional Communication
DUS	: Drug Utilisation Study
EEA	: European Economic Area
EMA	: European Medicines Agency
ENT	: Ear Nose and Throat
EPPM	: Enquête Permanente sur la Prescription Medicale
EU	: European Union
GPs	: General Practitioners
HAS	: Haute Autorité de Santé
ICO	: International Classification of Diseases
IMS	: Intercontinental Marketing Services
ITS	: Interrupted Time Series
MAT	: Moving Annual Trend
NDI	: National Diagnostic Index
PI	: Prescribing Insights
PSUR	: Periodic Safety Update Report
RMP	: Risk Management Plan
SOP	: Standard Operating Procedure
STROBE	: Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology

2. TITLE OF THE DOCUMENT

Drug utilisation study, in five European countries, using cross sectional analysis, to assess the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for its withdrawn ophthalmological and ENT indications among general practitioners, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists.

3. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

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5. ABSTRACT

Title

Drug utilisation study, in five European countries, using cross sectional analysis, to assess the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for its withdrawn ophthalmological and ENT indications among general practitioners, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists

First version submitted to EU member states (November 2012) and PRAC (July 2013)

Second version submitted to EMA and PRAC: June 2014

Main Author: Massoud Toussi, Medical Director, Real World Evidence Solutions, IMS Health.

Rationale and background

Further to the positive European re-evaluation of the Benefit/Risk of trimetazidine, adopted by the European Commission on September 3, 2012, the indication of trimetazidine was restricted to cardiology in adult patients “*as add-on therapy for the symptomatic treatment of patients with stable angina pectoris who are inadequately controlled by, or intolerant to, first-line antianginal therapies*”.

The ophthalmological and ENT indications of trimetazidine were not maintained because its efficacy has not been considered sufficiently documented according to current guidelines and methodology.

The EMA recommended conducting the study using a cross-sectional analysis, among EU databases (database containing information collected at physician or pharmacy level) and performing the study among GPs, ENT specialists and ophthalmologists.

Following this referral, Les Laboratoires Servier committed to

- Send a DHPC letter to the concerned prescribers in order to communicate the outcome of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) opinion in countries where trimetazidine was marketed,
- Perform a Drug Utilisation Study (DUS) to assess the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for its withdrawn ophthalmological and ENT indications among general practitioners, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists.

The present study protocol is in line with the synopsis of the Drug Utilisation Study, appended to the RMP agreed by the CHMP on June 21, 2012 and adopted by the EU commission on September 3, 2012 and has been updated according to the PRAC Rapporteur Assessment report dated February 2014. The study focuses on ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses of trimetazidine within the scope of its past indications.

The choice of the countries in which the study is going to be performed is based on the following:

- The countries where the ophthalmological and/or ENT indications were registered and marketed before the EU commission decision,
- The extent of patients exposure from market experience (using the last Periodic Safety Update Report (PSUR) data).

Taking into account this information, the study will be conducted in five countries: France, Greece, Poland, Romania and Spain which, taken together, represent 74% of the patient-exposure among the European countries.

Research question and objectives

Primary objective:

Assess, per country, the proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) among the total prescriptions of trimetazidine after the restriction of its indications.

Secondary objectives:

- Assess, per country, the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) by the GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists before and after the restriction of its indications.
- Assess, per country, the extent of prescription of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) with regards to GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists' characteristics before and after the restriction of its indications.

- Illustrate, per country, the trends of prescription of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) over time before and after its restriction of indications.
- Assess, per country, the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine in the cardiovascular indication after the restriction of its indications.
- Assess, in countries where it is feasible (France and Spain), the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for angina pectoris without other concomitant prescriptions for angina pectoris after the restriction of its indications.

Study design

Cross-sectional study using prescription or delivery databases containing data collected by either GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists (for France, Greece, Poland and Spain) or pharmacists (for Romania).

Two periods of data extraction will be studied:

- Reference period: one year period before the restriction of trimetazidine to cardiology (*i.e.* before the date of the CHMP positive opinion, June 21, 2012), from July 2011 to June 2012.
- Assessment period: a one year period beginning six months after sending of the DHPC letter to prescribers in countries where trimetazidine was marketed (*i.e.* after September / October 2012), from April 2013 to March 2014.

Population

The prescriptions of trimetazidine collected from patients who consulted GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists during the study periods in the five targeted countries. Eligible prescriptions are those containing trimetazidine, its brand or generic names.

Variables

The primary endpoint is the proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) among all trimetazidine prescriptions made by the targeted prescribers of each country.

Information extracted from each database:

- Prescriber information: specialty, age, gender and region of practice within the country,
- Patient information: age, gender, date of the visit and place of visit,
- Prescription information: drug name, prescription date, ICD 10 codes and label of the diagnosis related to the prescription, prescription initiated or renew.

Data sources

Databases containing prescriptions made by the prescribers (GPs, Ophthalmologists and ENTs specialists) or the delivery of these prescriptions in pharmacy:

- IMS Prescribing Insights™ (PI) is available in France, Greece, Poland and Spain. It contains physicians' prescriptions and corresponding diagnoses and the prescribers' specialty.
- National Diagnostic Index™ (NDI) is available in Romania. It contains drug deliveries in pharmacy, the corresponding diagnoses and the prescribers' specialty.

Study size

The sample size calculation is based on the primary objective, *i.e.* the proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) among all prescriptions of this drug in each country. Since there is no evidence supporting the expected proportion after the restriction of its indications, the hypothetical proportion of those cases is considered as 50% (conservative assumption). For a confidence interval of 95% and an error margin of 5%, the required sample size would be 384 prescriptions for each country.

Data analysis

General statistical considerations:

The statistical analysis will be conducted using SAS[®] software Version 9.2 for Windows[™] (SAS Institute, North Carolina, USA).

Continuous variables will be described by the number of valid cases, the number of missing values, mean, standard deviation, median, Q1, Q3 and range.

Categorical variables will be described as the total number and relative percentage per category.

The number of missing data will be indicated. Missing data will not be taken into account for the calculation of the percentages.

Confidence intervals of 95% will be calculated for each item, when relevant.

The statistical unit will be the prescription (for extractions from PI database) or the dispensed prescription (for extractions from NDI database). Calculations will be performed on raw data.

Prescribers' profile will be described per country: age, gender and region.

Summaries will be reported at country level and by period (Reference period and assessment period) categorized according to the speciality.

Descriptive analysis:

- Primary endpoint:
 - Trimetazidine use will be evaluated using prescriptions or deliveries collected during the assessment period and expressed per country for GP's, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists. Two groups of trimetazidine prescriptions or deliveries will be identified according to the diagnosis: (a) ophthalmological diagnoses and (b) ENT diagnoses among (c) the total of diagnoses. use of trimetazidine in its past ophthalmological and ENT will be calculated as: $(a+b)/c$.
- Secondary end points:
 - Extent of prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses by GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists before and after the restriction of its indications. The distribution of trimetazidine use in its past indications will be expressed across specialties per country.
 - Extent of prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses by specialist' characteristics before and after the restriction of indications.
 - Trends of prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses over time before and after its restriction of indications.
 - To study the evolution of physicians' prescribing behaviour over time, the proportions of ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses will be refined by semester.
 - Extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine by GPs in the cardiovascular indication after its restriction of indications (only in IMS PI).

- Extend of prescriptions of trimetazidine by GPs for angina pectoris without other concomitant prescriptions for angina pectoris after its restriction of indications (only in France and Spain)

Milestones

Start of data collection : December 2012

End of data collection : July 2014

Final report of study results : September 2014

6. AMENDMENTS AND UPDATES

Number	Date	Section of study protocol	Amendment or update	Reason
V2	04 June 2014	4. Responsible parties	One additional name for Sponsor Team	PRAC assessment report
		5. Abstract	Updated accordingly	
		9. Objectives of the study	Additional secondary objectives	
		10.3 Variables	Secondary endpoints added ICD10 cardiovascular diagnoses added	
		10.4 Data sources	Additional description (classification system, data collection, coding, validation and quality control)	
		10.5 Study size	Possibility for the extension of data collection periods	
		10.7.3 Descriptive analysis	Conditions for the ITS design Additional analyses on secondary endpoints	
		10.9 Limitations	Definition of cardiovascular diagnoses Definition of concomitant medication Panel composition and representativeness	
		15. Appendices	Appendices 6 and 7 added	

7. MILESTONES

Start of data collection : December 2012

End of data collection : July 2014

Final report of study results : September 2014

8. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE FOR COUNTRY SELECTION

8.1. Background

Further to the positive European re-evaluation of the Benefit/Risk of medicinal products containing trimetazidine (referral under article 31 of Directive 2001/83/EC), adopted by the European Commission on September 3, 2012, the indication of trimetazidine was restricted to cardiology in adult patients *“as add-on therapy for the symptomatic treatment of patients with stable angina pectoris who are inadequately controlled by, or intolerant to, first-line antianginal therapies”*(1).

The ophthalmological and ENT indications were not maintained because the efficacy of trimetazidine has not been considered sufficiently documented according to current guidelines and methodology.

In the frame of this referral, Les Laboratoires Servier committed to:

- Send a DHPC letter to the concerned prescribers to communicate the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) opinion in countries where trimetazidine was marketed, within 25 days after the adoption by the European Commission,
- Perform a Drug Utilisation Study to assess the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for its withdrawn ophthalmological and ENT indications among general practitioners, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists.

The present study protocol is in line with the synopsis of the Drug Utilisation Study, appended to the RMP agreed by the CHMP on June 21, 2012, adopted by the EU Commission on September 3, 2012 and has been updated according to the PRAC Rapporteur Assessment report dated February 2014. The study focuses on ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses of trimetazidine within the scope of its past indications.

In addition, during the evaluation process, the EMA recommended the following regarding the Drug Utilisation Study:

- To conduct the study using a cross-sectional analysis,
- To use EU databases (including database to collect information at physician or pharmacy level),
- To perform the study in GPs, ENTs and ophthalmologist specialists.

8.2. Rationale for country selection

The choice of the countries in which the study is going to be performed is based on the following:

1. Whether the ophthalmological and/or ENT indications were registered and marketed in the countries before the EU commission decision, *i.e.*:
 - Countries in which the three indications were registered and marketed: France, Greece, Romania, Cyprus, Ireland, Luxembourg and Malta.
 - Countries in which two indications (cardiology and ENT) were registered and marketed: Spain, Poland, Bulgaria and Hungary,
 - Countries in which one indication (ENT) was registered: Denmark.

2. The extent of patients exposure from market experience for the above mentioned countries taking into account the data from the last Periodic Safety Update Report (PSUR) that covered the period from February 2009 to January 2012 (see [Table \(8.2\) 1](#)).
3. Overall, the countries in which the product was the most marketed were: France, Greece, Poland, Romania and Spain.
4. Availability of EU databases to retrieve the information. All the countries listed in point two above were eligible.

Consequently, the study will be conducted in five countries: France, Greece, Poland, Romania and Spain. These five countries represent 74% of the patient-exposure among the European countries.

Table (8.2) 1 - Patient exposure from marketed experience - EEA Countries
Source: PSUR period from 01/02/2009 to 31/01/2012

Countries	Market Authorisation	Number of patient-months	
		Since Market Authorisation until 31-JAN-2012	PSUR period from 01-FEB-2009 to 31-JAN-2012
France*	Oct 1980	228 900 885	23 429 628
Luxembourg	Apr 1982	389 505	21 163
Portugal	Dec 1984	27 100 204	5 736 814
Greece	Jan 1986	20 806 334	4 390 038
Spain	Mar 1986	29 937 957	4 820 388
Ireland	Oct 1987	589 264	39 441
Cyprus	1988	460 464	156 552
Malta	Sep 1991	225 052	95 527
Romania	Sep 1991	20 780 495	9 547 185
Poland	Oct 1994	20 228 672	4 707 068
Italy	May 1995	1 691 657	230 846
Denmark	Feb 1996	114 228	24 244
Latvia	Jan 1997	902 097	292 766
Bulgaria	May 1997	5 837 481	1 859 526
Lithuania	May 1997	2 169 919	1 130 135
Czech Republic	Sep 1997	4 610 629	1 740 553
Slovakia	Sep 1997	6 376 879	2 034 142
Hungary	Dec 1997	20 745 130	4 156 287
Slovenia	Jan 1999	277 525	178 169
Estonie	Nov 2002	504 359	248 447
EU countries		392 684 736	63 251 308

* Including Guadeloupe, Guiana, Martinique, Reunion and Mayotte.

This study protocol is in line with the synopsis of the Drug Utilisation Study, appended to the RMP that was agreed by the CHMP on June 21, 2012, and adopted by the European Commission on September 3, 2012.

9. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The aim of this study is to assess the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for its withdrawn ophthalmological and ENT indications among general practitioners, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists in five EU countries (France, Greece, Poland, Romania and Spain).

The primary objective is to:

- Assess, per country, the proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) among the total prescriptions of trimetazidine after the restriction of its indications.

Secondary objectives are to:

- Assess, per country, the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) by GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists before and after the restriction of its indications.
- Assess, per country, the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) with regards to specialists' characteristics (see [Section 10.7.1](#)) before and after the restriction of its indications.
- Illustrate, per country, the trends of prescription of trimetazidine for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) over time before and after its restriction of indications.
- Assess, per country, the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine by GPs¹ in the cardiovascular indication after the restriction of its indications.
- Assess, in countries where it is feasible (France and Spain), the extent of prescriptions of trimetazidine by GPs¹ for angina pectoris without other concomitant prescriptions for angina pectoris after the restriction of its indications.

10. RESEARCH METHODS

10.1. Study design

Cross-sectional and non-interventional study using prescription or delivery databases (secondary use of data already collected by GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists, or pharmacists) in each participating country.

10.2. Setting

The study is conducted on prescription/delivery databases during the study period in all of the participating countries (France, Greece, Poland, Romania and Spain).

Two periods of data extraction, one before (reference period) and another one after the restriction of trimetazidine indications to cardiology (assessment period), will be studied taking into account the following considerations:

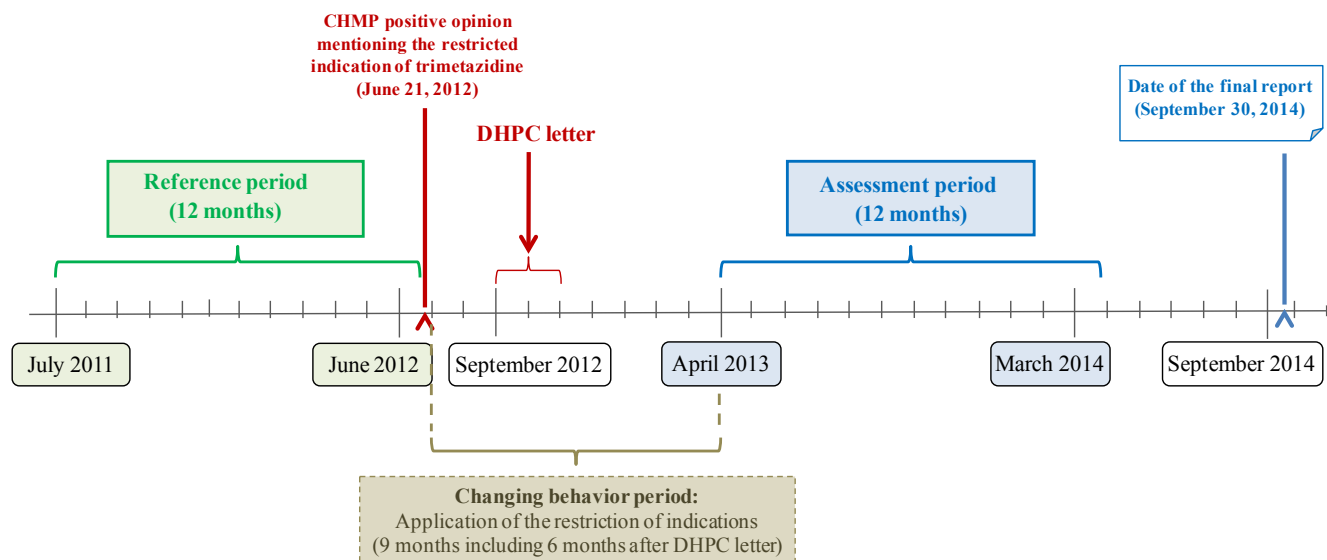
- The two periods must have the same length in order to be comparable.
- The CHMP positive opinion - press release was published on the EMA website mentioning the restricted indication of trimetazidine in cardiology on June 2012 (June 21, 2012). The reference period should be analysed before this date and assessment period after this date.

- The DHPC letter sent to prescribers in the countries where trimetazidine was marketed (from September to October 2012). A transition period of at least six months after sending the DHPC letter seems appropriate before the assessment period in order to allow the physicians to be informed and apply the new restricted indications.
- Overall, according to the number of trimetazidine prescriptions in each country (see [Table \(10.4.1.2\) 2](#) and [Section 10.4.2](#) for Romania), a collection period of one year is necessary to allow enough prescriptions of trimetazidine. Moreover, the advantage of a full year period for data collection is that it removes any potential bias related to seasonality of prescriptions.
- Constraints linked to the differences of production and publication cycles from one country to another (see [Table \(10.4.1.2\) 1](#) in [Section 10.4](#) Data sources). Cycles of data collection of are calendar quarters in Spain and France (frequency applicable from 2013 with backdata corrections for the years 2012 and 2011), rolling seasonal semesters in Greece and Poland, and monthly in Romania. Therefore, the bounds of both periods should be synchronous across countries and compatible with these timelines in order not to take a mid-cycle in one of these countries.
- Deadline for the study report submission is 30 September 2014. Therefore, considering one year data collection and given the time lag needed for the data management after its collection in each country (especially in Greece and Poland where data are collected per rolling semesters, see [Section 10.4](#) Data sources), the data collection must start early enough (April 2013) to provide a full year view of complete data.

Thus, the two following extraction periods from the selected databases will be considered [Figure \(10.2\) 1](#).

- Reference period: one year period before the restriction of trimetazidine in cardiology [*i.e.* before the date of the CHMP positive opinion (June 21, 2012)], from July 2011 to June 2012.
- Assessment period: a one year period beginning six months after sending of the DHPC letter to prescribers in countries where trimetazidine was marketed (*i.e.* after September / October 2012 (2)), from April 2013 to March 2014.

Figure (10.2) 1 - Main study periods and timelines



The time between these two extraction periods will not be used for the analysis of the proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmologic and ENT diagnoses. However, the trends of ophthalmological and ENT prescriptions will be studied during the first months after the announcement of the restriction of indications to allow understanding of the change process.

Of note, even if data are accumulated over a year to produce moving annual trend (MAT), the study is still considered cross-sectional as the pooled extractions are not longitudinal.

Eligible prescriptions for the analysis are those containing trimetazidine, its brand or generic names (see [Appendix 1](#), *i.e.* Annex I of the CHMP opinion where the brand and generic names are listed and limited to the 5 countries where the Drug Utilisation Study will be performed) made by the targeted prescribers (GP, ophthalmologist and ENT specialists).

10.3. Variables

The primary end point of interest is the proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) among all trimetazidine prescriptions in the targeted prescribers of each country.

Secondary end points include:

- Extent of prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses by GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists before and after the restriction of its indications. The distribution of trimetazidine use in its past indications will be expressed across specialties per country.
- Extent of prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses by specialist's characteristics before and after the restriction of indications.
- Trends of prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses over time before and after its restriction of indications.

- To study the evolution of physicians' prescribing behaviour over time, the proportions of ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses will be refined by semester.
- The proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine by GPs in the cardiovascular indication after its restriction of indications (only in IMS PI).
- The proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine by GPs for angina pectoris without other concomitant prescriptions for angina pectoris, after its restriction of indications. This endpoint can only be defined in the PI databases from France and Spain, where the different lines of prescriptions from a same visit can be linked together.

The two last secondary endpoints will be assessed among GPs since it is assumed unlikely that ophthalmologists or ENTs prescribe trimetazidine in a cardiovascular indication.

The following information will be extracted from each database:

- Prescriber information: specialty (GP, ophthalmologist and ENT specialist), age, gender and region of practice within the country,
- Patient information: age, gender, date and place of the visit (the latter being not available in France and Romania),
- Prescription information: drug name, prescription date, ICD 10 code and label of the diagnosis related to the prescription, information on whether the prescription is an initiation or renewal.
- Ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses, corresponding to the indications of trimetazidine registered before the end of the referral, are defined using the following ICD-10 codes:
 - H 34 : Retinal vascular occlusions,
 - H 35 : Other retinal disorders,
 - H47 : Other disorders of optic [2nd] nerve and visual pathways,
 - H53 to H54: Visual disturbances and blindness,
 - H55: Nystagmus and other irregular eye movements,
 - H81: Disorders of vestibular function,
 - H82: Vertiginous syndromes in diseases classified elsewhere,
 - H83: Other diseases of inner ear,
 - H90: Conductive and sensorineural hearing loss,
 - H91: Other hearing loss,
 - H93: Other disorders of the ear, not elsewhere classified,
 - R42 and its subcodes: Dizziness and giddiness.
- Cardiovascular diagnoses corresponding to the indication of trimetazidine (stable angina pectoris) using the following ICD-10 codes:
 - I20.1: Angina pectoris with documented spasm
 - I20.8: Other forms of angina pectoris
 - I20.9: Angina pectoris, unspecified
 - Medicines with indication for angina pectoris concomitantly prescribed with trimetazidine:
 - B01A: Antithrombotic agents
 - C01D: Vasodilators used in cardiac diseases
 - C01EB17: Ivabradine
 - C01EB18: Ranolazine
 - C07: Beta-blocking agents
 - C08: Calcium channel blockers
 - C09: Agents acting on the renin-angiotensin system

In each country, the endpoints will be assessed among three subgroups based on the specialty of the prescriber, when applicable:

- General practitioners (in some countries this includes family physicians and residents in internal medicine), definition of GP is provided in ([Appendix 2](#)),
- Ophthalmologists,
- ENT specialists.

10.4. Data sources

Databases containing prescriptions made by the prescribers (GPs, Ophthalmologists and ENTs specialists) or the delivery of these prescriptions in pharmacy will be used:

- Prescribing insights (PI) is a common name for a set of country specific databases containing drug prescriptions, their corresponding diagnoses as well as the specialty of prescribers. PI is available in France, Greece, Poland and Spain.
- National Diagnostic IndexTM (NDI):
National diagnostic index (NDI) contains drug deliveries in pharmacy, their corresponding diagnoses and the specialty of the prescriber. NDI is available in Romania.

For both databases, a validation process for ICD-codes is set-up as described in the following sections.

10.4.1. Prescribing Insights (PI) database

10.4.1.1. General description of PI database

PI database contains the evolution of IMS Medical Indices, which had as objective to provide a detailed analysis of prescriptions, diagnoses and therapy patterns based on the records of practicing physicians (both GPs and specialists). These have been used in many countries since 1959. The reports are being published in over 40 countries. They are issued since 1963 in France, 1969 in Spain, 1986 in Greece and 1995 in Poland ([Appendix 3](#)).

The data contained in PI panel is contributed by a panel of physicians randomly selected in each country. The number of physicians participating in the panel varies from country to country and from specialty to specialty. An annual renewal of 20-30% is performed on the panel, *i.e.* either decided in advance or forced (for example 25% in France and 30% in Spain) or the natural churn. A forced panel renewal means that physicians have a maximum number of years for participation in the panel (*e.g.* maximum four years for France). Each of these induced or natural turn over strategies has its own advantages ([Appendix 4](#)).

10.4.1.2. Sampling design of PI database

Physicians are stratified mainly according to their specialty and region ([Table \(10.4.1.2\) 1](#); [Appendix 4](#)).

Note that in Spain, the physicians are stratified by centre size, region (proportional) and specialty (disproportional). In France, the sampling is performed using more criteria, especially for GPs (activity score, age, sex, demographic size of their practice's place).

Table (10.4.1.2) 1 - Countries Characteristics of PI panel - EEA Countries

Characteristics	FRANCE	GREECE	POLAND	SPAIN
1st Year of issue	1963	1986	1995	1969
Physician Panel Size	1 190 Doctors	474 doctors	565 Doctors	965 Doctors
Panel selection method, sampling	Random sample	Random cluster sample	Random sample	Random sample
Stratification	Stratified by region and speciality	Stratified by Region and Specialty	Stratified by speciality	Stratified by region, centre size (proportional) and speciality (disproportional)
Reporting Time	7 Consecutive Days	7 Consecutive Days	7 Consecutive Days per semester	7 Consecutive Days
Publication cycle	Up to 2012: seasonal Quarters - Spring (Mar - May), Summer (Jun - Aug), Autumn (Sep - Nov), Winter (Dec - Feb). From 2013: Calendar Quarters*	Rolling Semesters with quarterly delivery	Rolling Semesters : Q1 and Q3 (October-March, April-September) , Q2 and Q4 (January-June, July-December)	Calendar Quarters
Geographic	All 8 regions, except for overseas islands	All 7 regions	All 3 regions	All regions except Las Palmas, Tenerife, Ceuta and Melilla

* Back data: For the calendar quarter transition in 2013, the years 2012 and 2011 will be recalculated in calendar quarter.

The number of GPs, ENTs and ophthalmologists in PI panel for countries of interest is shown in [Table \(10.4.1.2\) 2](#). Note that in Greece the panel does not cover ophthalmologists.

Table (10.4.1.2) 2 - Focus on trimetazidine - Number of specialists participating in the PI panel and number of trimetazidine prescriptions - EEA Countries

Number (%)	FRANCE	GREECE**	POLAND*	SPAIN*
GPs Universe	60 974	-	14218	49 121
GPs in the PI panel	400 (0.66)	(1.63)	110 (0.77)	300 (0.61)
ENTs Universe	2 228	-	2564	2598
ENTs in the PI panel	40 (1.79)	(1.74)	25 (0.98)	30 (1.16)
Ophthalmologists Universe	4 716	Not covered	NA	NA
Ophthalmologists in the PI panel	60 (1.27)	(0)	NA	NA
Number of trimetazidine prescriptions (last MAT) except cardiologists	± 1 450	± 650	± 1450	± 390

(*) In Spain, the GPs and family doctors are accumulated. In Poland, family doctors and the resident physicians are considered as GPs.

(**) For Greece the panel size is expressed in % of physicians compared to the corresponding universe.

MAT: Moving annual Trend;

NA: Not applicable: the ophthalmological indication has never been registered in these countries.

10.4.1.3. Data collection of PI database

Physicians are asked to collect data during 7 consecutive days, including the week-end, for each publication cycle (*i.e.* each quarter for France and Spain, or semester for Greece and Poland). During this period, they use a paper notebook or an electronic padbook ([Appendix 5](#) and [Appendix 6](#)) to record all their prescriptions for each patient visited in outpatient care.

Since first quarter of 2013, all participating physicians in Spain have the possibility to use padbooks or to keep participating in the panel *via* paper notebooks. Greece and Poland will also offer to the physicians the possibility of using padbooks by the end of 2014. Data collection through padbooks is planned in France in the upcoming years, but will not happen in 2014.

The following information is available for each prescriber: Age, gender, specialty, region of practice, and in some cases, the type of practice (office-based, office and hospital based).

The following information is available for each prescription:

- Date of patient's visit, patient's age, gender, place of visit (ambulatory, doctor's, patient's home, surgery, external clinic or other),
- Diagnosis (one or several), or the main symptoms (diagnoses are coded according to the ICD-10 classification),
- Drug prescription: list of the drugs prescribed (coded in ATC), desired effects expected from administering each drug, avoiding such generalities as "healing", "improvement" etc.

10.4.1.4. Coding reliability and quality control during data release of PI database

For each country, the data collected *via* paper notebooks or padbooks are transmitted to a dedicated team called IMS central coding unit.

For the paper notebooks, diagnoses verbatim reported by the physicians are coded to ICD-10 codes by this team using a mapping algorithm developed and enhanced by IMS since 1990s. This coding is carried out using the same coding guidelines translated into different languages to ensure harmonization. Coders are fully fluent on the local languages of the countries they code. They are supervised by Healthcare Professionals (HCP) including medical doctors and nurses who provide medical and scientific supporting during coding steps and check randomly 5% of coded prescriptions from each coder to ensure the quality level. HCPs are trained on IMS tools and have to follow IMS SOPs within the framework of their activities. Moreover, the quality unit of the production department of IMS verifies continuously the quality of its panels in terms of panel representativeness, consistency of collected data and validation of coding of physician' verbatim.

Drugs, diagnoses and patient's characteristics from PI databases are recorded and coded separately into three different data entry forms.

Before the release of the data collected at each quarter/semester, inconsistencies (*i.e.*, between diagnoses/drugs and patients' characteristics (age, gender): reporting of pregnancy for a male patient or prostate cancer for a female patient, ...) are automatically detected (programmed rules) and then adjudicated by an IMS Health Care Professionals (the inconsistency is checked *versus* the original paper notebooks and is either corrected or tagged as aberrant data in the database).

A customized report is sent to all participating prescribers at each end participating quarter or semester in order to provide them an overview of their own activity and of the quality of the data they have forwarded to IMS Health.

For the padbooks, the physician can choose between selecting a diagnosis from a drop down list which is already linked to an ICD-10 code or entering free text that is then coded by IMS (same coding system as paper notebooks mentioned above).

The coding process in the PI database is homogenous between countries and over time and continuously validated through an internal IMS process made at each quarter or semester release.

10.4.2. National Diagnostic Index (NDI) database

10.4.2.1. General description of NDI database

In Romania, the National Diagnostic Index (NDI) database is a national claims database containing information collected through 4000 pharmacies out of the 7700 registered (last update dated April 2014), allowing to cover around 90% of the drug dispensing across the country. Data are collected from all patients covered by state health insurance are used by the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF).

10.4.2.2. Coding process and reliability of NDI database

When a physician prescribes a medicinal product to a patient, the physician specifies on the prescription form the following information:

- the patient's characteristics (name, age and gender),
- the drug (molecule, brand name, dose),
- the diagnosis associated with the prescription according to a national list consisting of 999 disease codes.

At the pharmacy level, for each prescription, the name/specialty of the physician, the date of delivery, units dispensed and all the above information documented by the physician are manually entered into the reporting software by the pharmacist.

The diagnoses from this local coding list are then matched to ICD-10 codes through a validated and continuously updated thesaurus system in a centralised electronic platform (IMS Health has no control over this coding as this is carried out by the governmental bodies in charge of this database). Once the pharmacist has entered the data into the software, there is no intervention from the pharmacist nor specific validation for coding, even if codes are missing or incorrect.

Of note, complementary information on the delivered products are also automatically generated by the software through a reference product file: ATC code, reimbursement status, product manufacturer, type of pack ...

Various topics are available for analysis (e.g. product manufacturer, therapeutic class of drug, molecule, administration form, launching year, diagnosis, etc.). A complete set of measures are also available (e.g. units, value on three price levels, counting units, etc.).

Excerpts of this database are accessible to IMS through monthly reports of aggregated data, including all possible combinations of prescribed drug, concomitant treatments, and diagnoses related to each prescription, specialty of the prescriber, patient gender and age group (see [Appendix 7](#)). If the ICD-10 codes have not been entered into the software, they are considered as “missing” for the analysis.

10.5. Study size

The calculation of the sample size is based on the primary objective, *i.e.* the proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine for ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses (within the scope of its past indications) among all prescriptions of this drug in each country. The following formula was used for the calculation of the sample size, in which n is the required sample size, t is the t-test value for a given confidence interval, p is the proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses, and e is the error margin.

$$n = t^2 \cdot \frac{p \cdot (1-p)}{e^2}$$

Since there is no evidence supporting the expected proportion of trimetazidine prescription for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses after the restriction of trimetazidine indications, to be on the safe side, it has been considered a p as 50% (this assumption yields the largest sample size). Given this assumption, and for a confidence interval of 95% ($t=1.96$) and an error margin (e) of 5%, the required **sample size would be 384 prescriptions for each country**.

According to the last available Moving Annual Trend (MAT), the number of prescriptions of trimetazidine observed over one year in France, Greece, Poland and Spain is higher than the threshold of $N=384$ prescriptions (see [Table \(10.4.1.2\) 2](#) above). Therefore, data collected over one year for the Reference period will be enough for statistical analyses. Concerning the assessment period, it is difficult to produce reliable predictions of the level of prescriptions at the time this protocol is being written, but data collection over one year should be sufficient for statistical analysis in most of the 4 countries if the overall number of prescriptions of trimetazidine remain in the same range and does not drop dramatically following its restriction of indications (see [Section 10.9](#)).

The need for an extension of data collection for the assessment period will be assessed in August 2014 (once the data from the last quarter ending by March 2014 will be made available). Indeed, depending on the observed number of prescriptions and the level of the estimated proportion of prescriptions for ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses among all prescriptions, the required sample size may be revised while keeping the needed statistical precision.

In Romania, due to the nature (national claims database) and coverage rate (88%) of NDI, the threshold of 384 deliveries will be exceeded for both periods.

10.6. Data management

The study will be conducted according to the standard operating procedures of IMS Health. The datasets extracted from each country database are stored in a dedicated database and checked in terms of consistency before the data analysis. Once validated and quality checked, the database will be locked.

10.7. Data analysis

10.7.1. General statistical considerations

The statistical analysis will be conducted using SAS[®] software Version 9.2 for Windows[™] (SAS Institute, North Carolina, USA).

Continuous variables will be described by their number (number of valid cases, number of missing values), mean, standard deviation, median, Q1, Q3, minimum, and maximum.

Categorical variables will be described as the total number and relative percentage per category.

The number of missing data will be indicated. Missing values are expected to be non-substantial and distributed at random. As no applicable methods of addressing missing values win unanimous support, no missing data will be replaced (3). Especially, prescriptions of trimetazidine reported without the indication or diagnosis will not be taken into account for the calculation of the percentages. The reasons for non-response will be sought, especially from all observed variables. This will ensure that missing data are reported with enough detail to strengthen the validity of the results, as recommended by the STROBE guidelines (4).

Confidence intervals of 95% will be calculated for each item, when relevant.

The statistical unit will be the prescription (for extractions from PI database) or the dispensed prescription (for extractions from NDI database). Calculations will be performed on raw data. Thus, no projection factor will be applied to generalize the results to the entire prescribers' universe.

Summaries will be reported at country level and by period (Reference period and Assessment period) stratified according to the speciality (GPs, ophthalmologists and ENTs).

Results (see [secondary end point ii](#) in [Section 10.7.3](#) Descriptive analysis) will be analyzed also according to prescribers' characteristics to check for possible selection bias.

10.7.2. Assessment of selection bias in PI panel

Prescribers' profile will be described per country: age, gender and regions.

Note that the data extractions will contain only GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists with at least one prescription of trimetazidine over each period. As a result, prescribers' profile could deviate from that of the universe just because prescribers are different and not due to a potential bias in the databases used.

In PI database, to assess the potential of any selection bias due to the participation in the panel, characteristics of long time panellists will be compared to more recent ones according to their age, gender and regions. This is subject to availability of information and sufficient number of prescribers in each PI database.

As the panel turn-over is around 25%, the new panellists are defined as those 25% of panellists who have the shortest duration of participation in the panel. Others would be considered as long time panellists.

As the NDI database coverage is national, the analysis of selection bias will not be carried out (also technically, it is not possible to reach prescribers).

Table (10.7.2) 1 - Characteristics of trimetazidine prescribers by specialty and per country

By specialty	France			Greece			Poland			Spain			Romania		
	Overall	Long time	Recent	Overall	Long time	Recent	Overall	Long time	Recent	Overall	Long time	Recent	Over all	Long time	Recent
GPs															
Demographics															
Age	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Gender	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Regions/ Geographic area	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
ENTs															
Demographics															
Age	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Gender	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Regions/ Geographic area	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
Ophthalmologists				Not covered	Not covered	Not covered	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA			
Demographics															
Age	xxx	xxx	xxx										xxx	xxx	xxx
Gender	xxx	xxx	xxx										xxx	xxx	xxx
Regions/ Geographic area	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx										xxxx	xxxx	xxxx

NA: Not applicable: the ophthalmological indication has never been registered in these countries. Not covered: The PI database in this country does not cover ophthalmologists.

10.7.3. Descriptive analysis

Primary end point

The use of trimetazidine in its past ophthalmological and ENT indications will be analysed using the prescriptions/deliveries collected during the assessment period.

Nine months after the restriction of its indication in cardiology, all prescriptions/deliveries of trimetazidine will be extracted over one year, *i.e.* from April 2013 to March 2014 (two consecutive semesters in case of PI database and 12 months in case of NDI database).

Two groups of trimetazidine prescriptions/deliveries will be identified according to the filled diagnosis: (a) ophthalmological diagnoses and (b) ENT diagnoses (as defined in [Section 10.3](#)) among (c) the total of diagnoses. This total will include all other diagnoses. In case there are any missing values for diagnosis, they will be separated in the table, but will not be included in the total of diagnoses.

Ophthalmological and ENT use will be calculated as: $(a+b)/c$. Percentages of use during the assessment period will be expressed per country for GP's, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists altogether (Table (10.7.3) 1).

Table (10.7.3) 1 - Prescriptions/deliveries of trimetazidine during the assessment period by diagnosis and per country

Assessment period	France	Greece	Poland	Spain	Romania
Count of prescriptions or deliveries:					
Ophthalmological diagnoses (a)	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
ENT diagnoses (b)	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Missing diagnoses	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses† (c)	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Use in past indications (%) (a+b)/c	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%
CI 95%	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]

† Total not including missing diagnoses.

A sensitivity analysis based on the interrupted time series (ITS) design could be added if the extension of the data collection for the “assessment period” is deemed necessary (please refer to section 10.5) and if the final number of observation points (i.e. quarters) before and after the intervention are large enough to provide meaningful trends for an ITS.

Secondary end points

- i. *Extent of prescriptions/deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses by GPs, ophthalmologists and ENT specialists before and after the restriction of its indications.*

For each country, the distribution of the prescriptions or deliveries across the specialties will be given in Table (10.7.3) 2.

Table (10.7.3) 2 - Distribution of ophthalmological and ENT prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine during the assessment period by specialty and per country

Assessment period	France	Greece	Poland	Spain	Romania
Count and % of use in past ophthalmological and ENT indications of trimetazidine prescriptions or deliveries:					
by GPs	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)
by ENTs	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)	xx (xx.x%)
by ophthalmologists	xx (xx.x%)	Not covered	NA	NA	xx (xx.x%)
All s	xx (100%)	xx (100%)	xx (100%)	xx (100%)	xx (100%)

NA: Not applicable: the ophthalmological indication has never been registered in these countries. Not covered: The PI database in this country does not cover ophthalmologists.

Moreover, proportions will be calculated per country and specialty for the two time periods (Table (10.7.3) 3).

Although trimetazidine does not have ophthalmological indication in Poland and Spain, all diagnoses, including ophthalmological indications, will be analysed in these two countries for the GPs in order to avoid bias and keep the coherence with the analysis performed for the other countries.

Table (10.7.3) 3 - Proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions/deliveries for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses per country, before and after the restriction of indications by specialty (continued)

	France		Greece		Poland		Spain		Romania	
By specialty	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period
GPs										
Count of prescriptions/deliveries:										
Ophthalmological diagnoses	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
ENT diagnoses	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Missing diagnoses	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses †	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
Proportion of use in past ophthalmological or ENT indications	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)
CI 95%	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]
Differentials:										
absolute (Assessment (2)-Reference (1))		-xx		-xx		-xx		-xx		-xx
relative (Assessment (2)-Reference (1))/Reference (1)		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%
CI 95% for the absolute difference		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]
ENTs										
Count of prescriptions/deliveries:										
Ophthalmological diagnoses	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	NA	NA	NA	NA	xxx	xxx
ENT diagnoses	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Missing diagnoses	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses†	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
Proportion of use in past ophthalmological or ENT indications	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)
CI 95%	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]
Differentials:										
absolute (Assessment (2)-Reference (1))		-xx		-xx		-xx		-xx		-xx
relative (Assessment (2)-Reference (1))/Reference (1)		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%
CI 95% for the absolute difference		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]		[x.x%-x.x%]

Table (10.7.3) 3 - Proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions/deliveries for ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses per country, before and after the restriction of indications by specialty 5

By specialty	France		Greece		Poland		Spain		Romania	
	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period
Ophthalmologists			Not Covered	Not Covered	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Count of prescriptions/deliveries:										
Ophtalmological diagnoses	xxx	xxx							xxx	xxx
ENT diagnoses	xxx	xxx							xxx	xxx
Missing diagnoses	xxx	xxx							xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses †	xxx	xxx							xxx	xxx
Proportion of use in past ophthalmological or ENT indications	xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)							xx.x% (1)	xx.x% (2)
CI 95%	[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]							[xx.x%-xx.x%]	[xx.x%-xx.x%]
Differentials:										
absolute (Assessment (2)-Reference (1))		-xx								-xx
relative (Assessment (2)-Reference (1))/Reference (1)		-x.x%								-x.x%
CI 95% for the absolute difference		[x.x%-x.x%]								[x.x%-x.x%]

† Total of diagnoses not including missing diagnoses.

NA: Not applicable: the ophthalmological indication has never been registered in these countries.

Not covered: The PI database in this country does not cover ophthalmologists.

- ii. *Extent of prescription of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses with regards to GPs, ophthalmologists and ENTs specialists' characteristics before and after the restriction of its indications.*

Physicians will be compared depending on their length of participation in the panel (only for PI databases, *i.e.* all countries except Romania): long time panellists *versus* recent one (Table (10.7.3) 4). The threshold could be fixed with the aid of the 25th percentile: long-time members if duration is longer, new members otherwise.

Table (10.7.3) 4 - Part of use of trimetazidine in its past ophthalmological and ENT indications per country before and after the restriction of indications by prescribers' characteristics (length of participation in the panel)

	France		Greece		Poland		Spain	
By type of participating physicians	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period	Reference period	Assessment period
Long-time members	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
Count of prescriptions:								
Use of trimetazidine in its past ophthalmological or ENT indications	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>
Proportion of use in past ophthalmological or ENT indications	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%
Differentials:								
absolute (Assessment (2)-Reference(1))		-xx		-xx		-xx		-xx
relative (Assessment (2) – Reference (1)) / Reference (1) = (3)		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%
Recent or new members	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
Count of prescriptions:								
Use in past indications	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>
Proportion of use in past ophthalmological or ENT indications	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%
Differentials:								
absolute Assessment (2)-Reference(1))		-xx		-xx		-xx		-xx
relative (Assessment (2) – Reference (1)) / Reference (1) = (4)		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%		-x.x%
Long time vs recent or new members								
Delta in points (3)-(4)		x.x		x.x		x.x		x.x

- iii. *Trends of prescriptions/deliveries of trimetazidine for the ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses over time before and after its restriction of indications.*

To study the evolution of physicians' prescription behaviour over time, the proportions of ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses will be refined by semester: two semesters before the restriction of indications (Reference period from July 2011 to June 2012) and two semesters after (Assessment period from April 2013 to March 2014).

Box plots or bar charts with confidence intervals will be used to illustrate the trends.

Analysis results of all the selected countries will be presented in the same statistical report, and then in the same study report.

iv. *Extent of prescriptions/deliveries of trimetazidine in the cardiovascular indication in the GP sub-panel after the restriction of its indications.*

For each country except Romania, the count of the prescriptions in the cardiovascular indication will be given in [Table \(10.7.3\) 5](#) for the assessment period. In NDI database (Romania), this end point is not assessable, as only aggregated data are provided to IMS. Note that this analysis will be performed at the prescription level, and not at the patient level.

In case a prescriber uses “renewal” as the reason of prescription without mentioning the cardiovascular diagnosis/indication, this may result in an underestimation of the proportion of patients receiving trimetazidine in the cardiovascular indication. For prescriptions with available data on their status (initiation versus renewal), separate analyses will be performed for prevalent users (renewals) and incident users (initiations) to check whether the proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions with a cardiovascular indication differ between groups.

Table (10.7.3) 5 - Proportion of cardiovascular prescriptions of trimetazidine among GPs and per country after the restriction of its indications

	France	Greece	Poland	Spain
	Assessment period			
Among GPs	n	n	n	n
<u>Count of all TMZ prescriptions:</u>				
Use of trimetazidine in cardiovascular indication	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses †	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>
Proportion of use in cardiovascular indication	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%
<u>Count of TMZ renewals:</u>				
Use of trimetazidine in cardiovascular indication	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses †	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>
Proportion of use in cardiovascular indication	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%
<u>Count of TMZ initiations:</u>				
Use of trimetazidine in cardiovascular indication	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total of diagnoses †	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>	<u>xxxx</u>
Proportion of use in cardiovascular indication	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%	xx.x%

† Total of diagnoses not including missing diagnoses.

v. *Extent of prescriptions/deliveries of trimetazidine for angina pectoris in the GP sub-panel without other concomitant prescriptions for angina pectoris after the restriction of its indications.*

For France and Spain, the count of the prescriptions of trimetazidine carried out by GPs for angina pectoris without other concomitant prescriptions for angina pectoris will be given in [Table \(10.7.3\) 6](#) for the assessment period.

Table (10.7.3) 6 - Proportion of prescriptions of trimetazidine for angina pectoris without linked prescriptions for angina pectoris, during the assessment period - France and Spain - among GPs

Assessment period	France	Spain
	n	n
Among GPs		
Count of trimetazidine prescriptions for angina pectoris	xx	xx
Count and % of trimetazidine prescriptions for angina pectoris without linked concomitant prescriptions for angina pectoris	xx (xx%)	xx (xx%)

10.8. Quality control

The quality control is conducted at two or three levels depending on the database (PI /NDI):

- At the panel management level in case of PI databases, any efforts is undertaken to collect complete and valid data (support for physicians, quality control, induction of panel turn over...).
- At the database level, the quality unit of the production department of IMS verifies continuously the quality of its numerous panels in terms of panel representativeness, consistency of collected data, and validation of coding of physicians' verbatim. The documents can be consulted on site.
- At the study level, all aspects of the study from protocol development to the reporting of the results are conducted following standard operating procedures (SOPs) of IMS HEOR department. Specifically, the classification of diagnoses collected for trimetazidine under ophthalmological or ENT areas will be validated by a physician. SOPs of IMS HEOR can be consulted on site.

For details on the panel and coding procedures see [Section 10.4](#).

10.9. Limitations of the research methods

Definition of cardiovascular indication

The PI and NDI databases are prescription-based (the statistical unit is the prescription) and cross-sectional (patient's history is not available), thus the complete ascertainment of the patient's cardiovascular history is not possible in the current study.

In the PI databases (France, Greece, Poland and Spain), the physicians record information during 7 consecutive days per publication cycle (corresponding to a quarter in France and Spain, and to a semester in Greece and Poland). Therefore, given that both the reference and the assessment periods cover several publication cycles, a patient receiving trimetazidine renewal prescriptions may count several times without possibility to link these different visits to a single patient. For this reason, analyses can be performed at the prescription level, but not at the patient level.

As trimetazidine is a chronic treatment, a prescriber may proceed to its renewal without explicitly mentioning the cardiovascular diagnosis/indication. This type of information bias due to misclassification would lead to underestimate the true proportion of patients receiving trimetazidine in the cardiovascular indication. However, for prescriptions with the renewal/initiation mentioned as type (and not as diagnosis) by the prescriber, a separate analysis can be performed to see if the proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions with a cardiovascular indication differs between these two groups.

Note also that in NDI database (Romania), only aggregated data are provided to IMS. As a consequence, such analysis is not possible.

Definition of ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses

This study focuses on ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses of trimetazidine within the scope of its past indications. As a result, ophthalmological or ENT diagnoses associated with trimetazidine which are not part of its past indications will be counted with all other prescriptions. The present study does not aim to assess all cases of off label use. As a result, the provided definition of ophthalmological and ENT diagnoses using ICD 10 codes are in line with study objectives.

Definition of concomitant medication for angina pectoris

Only drugs co-prescribed to a patient at the same visit are collected in the PI databases. However, a patient with a trimetazidine prescription may have some concomitant medication for angina pectoris that was prescribed at a different visit than the one registered in the PI databases, thus underestimating the proportion of trimetazidine prescriptions for angina pectoris without concomitant medication for angina pectoris.

Panel composition and representativeness

In Greece, PI panel does not include ophthalmologists. Analyses will thus be limited to the diagnoses reported by GPs and the ENTs specialists.

In Poland and Greece, data integration in PI databases is performed every quarter alternatively for half of the panel, and the complete update of the information is obtained after two quarters. This implies to take a year of prescriptions from date to date and to make sure that a whole semester is covered.

It may be argued that the physicians who participate in panels may have different practice behaviour than other physicians who do not take part in such activity. In PI database, panel members are recruited through stratified random sampling from a universal list of practitioners. In France, Greece, Poland and Spain (PI databases), physician's specialty and characteristics such as age, gender and region are taken into account at the moment of the recruitment for the panel to ensure that it is representative of the population of prescribers. The number of specialists needed in the sample is determined at the time of the panel design and mainly proportional to the number of specialists in the country. However, to make sure of the applicability of statistical tests for specialists whose absolute number in the population is low, disproportionally larger numbers are often considered to compensate their rarity as compared to general practitioners. In case of analysis of extrapolated numbers, the results are then weighted to take into account any disproportionality in the sample. By design, the panel and its composition, including the number of specialists, provide a representative picture of the off-label use of trimetazidine in each country as a whole. Moreover, the data generated from these databases are checked against external sources of data to ensure their representativeness.

Moreover, a turnover of 20-30% according to the country (e.g. 25% per year in France and 30% in Spain) in each panel shows a good renewal of doctors. However, to make sure that use of trimetazidine in its past indications is not associated with characteristics of doctors within the panel (*i.e.* those who are long time panellist do not have necessarily different practice behaviour), the proportion of use of trimetazidine in its past indications among different groups of physicians with longer or shorter panel history will be analysed.

In Romania, the NDI database allows covering a wider population of prescribers compared to PI database (more than 90% of the drug deliveries). As a consequence, the coverage of specialists in the panel is nationally representative.

The prescriptions are recorded only if the drug is dispensed.

Study feasibility

The number of trimetazidine prescriptions (from GPs, ophthalmologists and ENTs) reported in the last available Moving Annual Trend (MAT1) should provide a sufficient sample size. However, it is likely that the number of prescriptions in the ophthalmological and ENT indications decrease after the CHMP positive opinion (June 21, 2012) - press release, published on the EMA website mentioning the restricted indication of trimetazidine in cardiology and the DHPC letter sent to the prescribers in the countries where trimetazidine is marketed. In this case, the expected confidence interval may not be achieved or it may become necessary to extend the data collection period.

Missing diagnoses

On the basis of the feasibility study, it appears that prescriptions or deliveries of trimetazidine reported without the diagnosis are rare. They are coded through ICD-10 code 'R693 Not stated diagnosis documentation' and represent less than 1% of cases. No systematic reason for non-response appears (not always the same prescriber, various patient profiles, at different times of the year). As a result, the planned method to handle missing data in the analysis seems to be suitable.

11. PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS

This study is non-interventional and based on secondary data use. No identifying data is collected in any of selected databases. These databases are set up following local law, including data privacy regulation.

12. MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING OF ADVERSE EVENTS/ADVERSE REACTIONS

Not applicable, as the study will be carried out through secondary use of data already collected.

13. PLANS FOR DISSEMINATING AND COMMUNICATING STUDY RESULTS

The study report should be sent to the MSs on September 30, 2014.

¹ From Quarter 2-2011 to Quarter 1-2012 for France, from Quarter 3-2011 to Quarter 2-2012 for Greece, Poland, Spain and Romania.

14. REFERENCES

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15. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: List of the names, pharmaceutical form(s), strength(s) of the medicinal product(s), route(s) of administration, marketing authorisation holder(s) in the member states presented for France, Greece, Poland, Romania and Spain

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
France	BIOGARAN 15, boulevard Charles de Gaulle 92707 Colombes Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE ALMUS	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	BIOGARAN 15, boulevard Charles de Gaulle 92707 Colombes Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE BIOGARAN	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	BIOGARAN 15, boulevard Charles de Gaulle 92707 Colombes Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE BIOGARAN	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	BIOGARAN 15, boulevard Charles de Gaulle 92707 Colombes Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE BIOGARAN	35 mg	Modified-release film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	CRISTERS 22 quai Gallieni 92150 Suresnes France	TRIMETAZIDINE CRISTERS	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	QUALIMED 117, allée des Parcs 69800 Saint-Priest France	TRIMETAZIDINE QUALIMED	20 mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
France	QUALIMED 117, allée des Parcs 69800 Saint-Priest France	TRIMETAZIDINE QUALIMED	35 mg	Modified-release film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	Les Laboratoires Servier 50, rue Carnot 92284 Suresnes cedex France	VASTAREL	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	Les Laboratoires Servier 50, rue Carnot 92284 Suresnes cedex France	VASTAREL	20 mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
France	Les Laboratoires Servier 50, rue Carnot 92284 Suresnes cedex France	VASTAREL	35 mg	Modified-release film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	VENIPHARM 4, bureaux de la Colline 92213 Saint-Cloud France	TRANETIZ	35 mg	Modified-release film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	VENIPHARM 4, bureaux de la Colline 92213 Saint-Cloud France	TRIGEMAX	35 mg	Modified-release film-coated tablet	Oral use

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
France	BIOGARAN 15, boulevard Charles de Gaulle 92707 Colombes Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE BGR	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
France	CLL PHARMA Nice Premier - Arénas 455, Promenade des Anglais 06299 Nice Cedex 03 France	TRIMETAZIDINE CLL PHARMA	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
France	SOCIÉTÉ IPSOR GENÉRIQUES - IGEN 18, avenue des Champs- Élysées 75008 Paris France	TRIMETAZIDINE IGEN	20 mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
France	LABORATOIRES IPSOR 18 Avenue des Champs Élysées 75008 Paris France	TRIMETAZIDINE IPSOR	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	LABORATOIRES IPSOR 18 Avenue des Champs Élysées 75008 Paris France	TRIMETAZIDINE IPSOR	20 mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
France	PLUS PHARMACIE SA 26, boulevard Paul Vaillant- Couturier 94200 Ivry-sur-Seine France	TRIMETAZIDINE ISOMED	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
France	CLL PHARMA Nice Premier - Arénas 455, Promenade des Anglais 06299 Nice Cedex 03 France	TRIMETAZIDINE MILGEN	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	CLL PHARMA Nice Premier - Arénas 455, Promenade des Anglais 06299 Nice Cedex 03 France	TRIMETAZIDINE MILGEN	20 mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
France	RATIOPHARM GMBH Graf Arco Strasse 3 89079 Ulm Germany	TRIMETAZIDINE RATIOPHARM	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
France	SUBSTIPHARM 8, rue Bellini 75116 Paris France	TRIMETAZIDINE SUBSTIPHARM	20 mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
France	ZYDUS FRANCE 25, rue des Peupliers ZAC Les Hautes Pâtures - Parc d'Activités des Peupliers 92000 Nanterre France	TRIMETAZIDINE ZYDUS	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	ZYDUS FRANCE 25, rue des Peupliers ZAC Les Hautes Pâtures - Parc d'Activités des Peupliers 92000 Nanterre France	TRIMETAZIDINE ZYDUS	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	VENIPHARM 4, bureaux de la Colline 92213 Saint-Cloud France	TRIMEVENI	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
France	TEVA SANTE Le Palatin 1 1 cours du Triangle 92936 Paris la Défense Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE TEVA	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	TEVA SANTE Le Palatin 1 1 cours du Triangle 92936 Paris la Défense Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE TEVA	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	TEVA SANTE Le Palatin 1 1 cours du Triangle 9296 Paris la Défense Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE TEVA	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
France	SANOFI AVENTIS FRANCE 1-13, boulevard Romain Rolland 75014 Paris France	TRIMETAZIDINE WINTHROP	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
France	SANOFI AVENTIS FRANCE 1-13, boulevard Romain Rolland 75014 Paris France	TRIMETAZIDINE WINTHROP	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	SANOFI AVENTIS FRANCE 1-13, boulevard Romain Rolland 75014 Paris France	TRIMETAZIDINE WINTHROP	35 mg	Modified- release film coated tablet	Oral use
France	AJC INVEST 6, rue de la Rochefoucauld 16000 Angoulême France	RIMETAZE	20mg	Film coated tablet	Oral use
France	AJC INVEST 6, rue de la Rochefoucauld 16000 Angoulême France	RIMETAZE	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	MYLAN SAS 117, allée des Parcs 69800 Saint-Priest France	TRIMETAZIDINE MYLAN	20 mg	Film coated tablet	Oral use
France	MYLAN SAS 117, allée des Parcs 69800 Saint-Priest France	TRIMETAZIDINE MYLAN	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	MYLAN SAS 117, allée des Parcs 69800 Saint-Priest France	TRIMETAZIDINE MYLAN	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
France	SANDOZ 49, avenue Georges Pompidou 92300 Levallois-Perret France	TRIMETAZIDINE SANDOZ	20 mg	Film coated tablet	Oral use

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
France	SANDOZ 49, avenue Georges Pompidou 92300 Levallois-Perret France	TRIMETAZIDINE SANDOZ	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	ACTAVIS France La Boursidière Centre d'Affaires 92357 Le Plessis Robinson France	TRIMETAZIDINE ACTAVIS	20 mg	Film coated tablet	Oral use
France	QUALIMED 117, allée des Parcs 69800 Saint-Priest France	TRIMETAZIDINE QUALIMED	20 mg	Film coated tablet	Oral use
France	PLUS PHARMACIE SA 26, boulevard Paul Vaillant- Couturier 94200 Ivry-sur-Seine France	TRIMETAZIDINE ISOMED	20 mg	Coated tablet	Oral use
France	EG LABO - LABORATOIRES EUROGENERICS "Le Quintet" - bâtiment A 12, rue Danjou 92517 Boulogne Billancourt Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE EG	20 mg	Film coated tablet	Oral use
France	EG LABO - LABORATOIRES EUROGENERICS "Le Quintet" - bâtiment A 12, rue Danjou 92517 Boulogne Billancourt Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE EG	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	EG LABO - LABORATOIRES EUROGENERICS "Le Quintet" - bâtiment A 12, rue Danjou 92517 Boulogne Billancourt Cedex France	TRIMETAZIDINE EG	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
France	ARROW GENERIQUES 26, avenue Tony Garnier 69007 Lyon France	TRIMETAZIDINE ARROW	20 mg	Film coated tablet	Oral use
France	ARROW GENERIQUES 26, avenue Tony Garnier 69007 Lyon France	TRIMETAZIDINE ARROW	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use
France	RATIOPHARM GMBH Graf Arco Strasse 3 89079 Ulm Germany	TRIMETAZIDINE RATIOPHARM	20 mg	Coated tablet	Oral use
France	RATIOPHARM GMBH Graf Arco Strasse 3 89079 Ulm Germany	TRIMETAZIDINE RATIOPHARM	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
France	SANDOZ 49, avenue Georges Pompidou 92300 Levallois-Perret France	TRIMETAZIDINE SANDOZ	35 mg	modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
Greece	HELP ABEE, Valaoritou 10 Metamorfosi Attikis 14452 Greece	NOVAZIDINE	20mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
Greece	FOINIXFARM EPE Dervenakion 38 & Sachini Gerakas 15344 Greece	ZIDIN	20mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
Greece	SERVIER HELLAS PHARMACEUTICALS Ltd, Ethnikis Antistaseos 72 & Agamemnonos Greece	VASTAREL	20 mg/tab	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Greece	SERVIER HELLAS PHARMACEUTICALS Ltd, Ethnikis Antistaseos 72 & Agamemnonos Greece	VASTAREL	20mg/ml	Oral drops, solution	Oral use
Greece	SERVIER HELLAS PHARMACEUTICALS Ltd, Ethnikis Antistaseos 72 & Agamemnonos Greece	VASTAREL	35 mg/tab	Controlled release tablet	Oral use
Poland	Ethifarm Sp. z o. o. ul. Hiacyntowa 39 60-175 Poznań Poland	Cyto-Protectin MR	35mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Poland	Przedsiębiorstwo Farmaceutyczne LEK-AM Sp. z o.o. Ostrzykowitzna 14A 05-170 Zakroczym Poland	Trimeductan MR	35mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Poland	Pabianickie Zakłady Farmaceutyczne Polfa S.A. Marszałka J. Piłsudskiego 5, 95-200 Pabianice Poland	Metazydyna	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Poland	Les Laboratoires Servier, 50, rue Carnot 92284 Suresnes cedex France	Preductal	20 mg	Film- coated tablet	Oral use
Poland	ANPHARM Przedsiębiorstwo Farmaceutyczne S.A. ul. Annopol 6B 03-236 Warszawa Poland	Preductal MR	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
Poland	Gedeon Richter Polska Sp. z o.o. Graniczna str. 35 05-825 Grodzisk Mazowiecki Poland	Protevasc SR	35 mg	Modified- release film- coated tablet	Oral use
Poland	ratiopharm GmbH Graf-Arco-Strasse 3 Ulm, 89079 Germany	Trimetaratio	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
Poland	ratiopharm GmbH Graf-Arco-Strasse 3 Ulm, 89079 Germany	Trimetazidine- ratiopharm PR	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Poland	Ethifarm Sp. z o. o. ul. Hiacyntowa 39 60-175 Poznań Poland	Cyto-Protectin MR	35mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Poland	Glenmark Pharmaceuticals s.r.o. Hvezdova 1716/2b Praga 4 CZ-140 78 Czech Republic	Portora	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Poland	Zentiva, k.s. U kabelovny 130 Praga 10, Dolni Mecholupy 10237 Dolni Mecholupy Czech Republic	Trimedal	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Poland	Sandoz GmbH Biochemiestrasse 10 A-6250 Kundl Austria	Dimesar	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	MYLAN S.A.S. 117, Allée des Parcs 69800 Saint Priest France	Trimetazidina Mylan	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	S.C. TERAPIA S.A. Str. Fabricii nr. 124 Cluj Napoca România	DILATAN MR 35 mg, comprimate filmate cu eliberare modificată, 35 mg	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	S.C. TERAPIA S.A. Str. Fabricii nr. 124 Cluj Napoca România	DILATAN 20 mg, comprimate filmate, 20 mg	20mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Romania	S.C. VIM SPECTRUM S.R.L., Șos. Sighișoarei nr. 409, Sat Corunca, Com. Livezeni Jud. Mureș România	TRIMETAZIDIN VIM SPECTRUM 20 mg, capsule	20 mg	Capsule	Oral use
Romania	Les Laboratoires Servier, 50, rue Carnot 92284 Suresnes cedex France	PREDUCTAL MR 35 mg, comprimate filmate cu eliberare modificată	35 mg	Modified- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	Les Laboratoires Servier, 50, rue Carnot 92284 Suresnes cedex France	PREDUCTAL 20 mg, comprimate filmate	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Romania	GEDEON RICHTER ROMÂNIA S. A. Str. Cuza - Vodă nr. 99 – 105 Târgu – Mureș România	MODUXIN MR 35 mg, comprimate filmate cu eliberare prelungită	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	GEDEON RICHTER ROMÂNIA S. A. Str. Cuza - Vodă nr. 99 – 105 Târgu – Mureș România	MODUXIN 20 mg, comprimate filmate	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
Romania	S.C. TERAPIA S.A. Str. Fabricii nr. 124 Cluj Napoca România	TRIMETAZIDINA 20 mg, drajeuri	20 mg	Coated tablet	Oral use
Romania	LABORMED PHARMA S.A. Bd. Theodor Pallady nr. 44B sector 3, Bucureşti România	TRIMETAZIDINĂ LPH 35mg, comprimate filmate cu eliberare modificată	35 mg	Modified- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	LABORMED PHARMA S.A. Bd. Theodor Pallady nr. 44B sector 3, Bucureşti România	TRIMETAZIDINĂ LPH 20 mg, comprimate filmate	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Romania	LABORMED PHARMA S.A. Bd. Theodor Pallady nr. 44B sector 3, Bucureşti România	Oxcardin 20 mg, comprimate filmate	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Romania	LABORMED PHARMA S.A. Bd. Theodor Pallady nr. 44B sector 3, Bucureşti România	Oxcardin MR 35mg, comprimate filmate cu eliberare modificată	35 mg	Modified- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	GLENMARK PHARMACEUTICALS s.r.o. Hvezdova 1716/2b, Prague 4, 140 78 Czech Republic	APSTAR 35 mg comprimate cu eliberare prelungită	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Romania	S.C.SANDOZ S.R.L. Str. Livezeni nr. 7A 540472 Târgu Mureş România	TRIMELUZINE 35 mg comprimate cu eliberare prelungită	35 mg	Prolonged- release tablet	Oral use
Spain	LABORATORIOS DAVUR, S.L. C/ Teide, 4- planta baja Polígono Empresarial La Marina 28703 San Sebastian de los Reyes (MADRID) Spain	TRIMETAZIDINA DAVUR 20 mg comprimidos recubiertos EFG	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Spain	RIMAFAR, S.L. Polígono Industrial Malpica Calle C, N° 4 50016 ZARAGOZA Spain	TRIMETAZIDINA RIMAFAR 20 mg comprimidos recubiertos EFG	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Spain	RATIOPHARM ESPAÑA, S.A. Avda. Burgos, 16 D-5ª planta 28036 MADRID Spain	TRIMETAZIDINA RATIOPHARM 20 mg comprimidos recubiertos con película EFG	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Spain	DANVAL, S.A. Avda. de los Madroños, 33 28043 Madrid Spain	IDAPTAN 20 mg comprimidos recubiertos con película	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Spain	DANVAL, S.A. Avda. de los Madroños, 33 28043 Madrid Spain	IDAPTAN 20 mg/ml solución oral	20 mg/ml	Oral solution	Oral use

Country	Address	Name	Dosage	Form	Route
Spain	LABORATORIOS CINFA, S.A. C/ Olaz-Chipi, 10 Polígono Industrial Areta 31620 Huarte (PAMPLONA) Spain	TRIMETAZIDINA CINFA 20 mg comprimidos recubiertos con película EFG	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use
Spain	PENSA PHARMA, S.A.U. C/ Jorge Comín (Médico Pediatra) 3-bajos 46015 Valencia Spain	TRIMETAZIDINA PENSA 20 mg comprimidos recubiertos con película EFG	20 mg	Film-coated tablet	Oral use

Appendix 2: Available specialties in PI panel in each country and the definition of each specialty by country

Analysis class	FRANCE		SPAIN		POLAND		GREECE	
	Code	Name	Code	Name	Code	Name	Code	Name
GP	1	General practice	1	General practice			1	General practice
GP			54	Family practice	54	Family practice		
GP			2	Internal medicine	2	Internal medicine		
PED	9	Pediatric	3	Pediatric	3	Pediatric	3	Pediatric
RHEU	B	Rheumatology	6	Rheumatology	6	Rheumatology	6	Rheumatology
GE	4	Gastroenterology	7	Gastroenterology	7	Gastroenterology	7	Gastroenterology
CARD	2	Cardiology	8	Cardiology	8	Cardiology	8	Cardiology
OTHER			9	Surgery	9	Surgery		
DERM	3	Dermatology	10	Dermatology	10	Dermatology	10	Dermatology
END	C	Endocrinology	11	Endocrinology	11	Endocrinology	11	Endocrinology
OPHTH	7	Ophthalmology	12	Ophthalmology	12	Ophthalmology		
GYN	5	Gynecology	13	Gynecology	13	Gynecology	13	Gynecology
ORL	8	Otorhinolaryngology	16	Otorhinolaryngology	16	Otorhinolaryngology	16	Otolaryngology
OTHER			17	Traumatology	19	Orthopedy	19	Orthopedics
URO	G	Urology	18	Urology	18	Urology	18	Urology
PULM	A	Pulmology	20	Pulmology	20	Pulmology	20	Pulmology
NEUR	6	Neurology	21	Neurology	21	Neurology	21	Neurology
PSY	F	Psychiatry	22	Psychiatry	22	Psychiatry	22	Psychiatry
OTHER			15	Odonto-stomatology	25	Diabetology		
OTHER					30	Allergology		
GP	D	Angio-Phlebology (GP)						

Appendix 3 : Physicians Stratification criteria and comparisons with the universe in PI per country

FRANCE

1. General information regarding the physicians' universe and the sample

Univers et panel – Universe & sample

Univers / Universe: données CNAM 2010 data

Panel / Sample: conception de l'échantillon / sample design

Specialities: 14

Speciality	Sample	Universe*
GPs	400	60 974
Cardiologists	100	4 625
Dermatologists	80	3 265
Endocrinologists	40	960
Gastroenterologists	45	2 102
Gynecologists	90	5 458
Neurologists	40	806
Ophthalmologists	60	4 716
ENT	40	2 228
Pediatricians	70	2 730
Pulmologists	40	1 133
Psychiatrists	100	6 342
Rheumatologists	45	1 829
Urologists	40	835
Total doctors	1 190	98 003

*Source: CNAMTS 2010

Geographic: 8 regions

1- Région parisienne

2- Nord

3- Centre

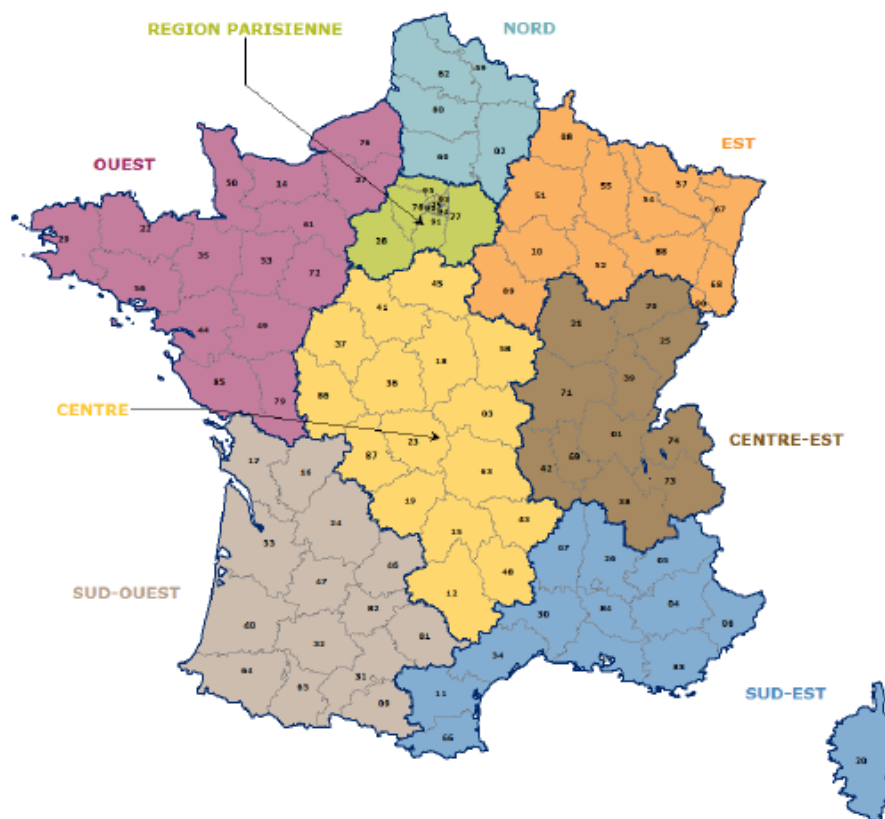
4- Ouest

5- sud-Ouest

6- Est

7- Centre-Est

8- Sud-Est



2. General information regarding the sample

Sample: 1190 physicians

From December 2011, the sample is made up of 1190 private and mixed doctors (non office-based activity below 50%) of which 400 GPs and 790 specialists in Metropolitan France.

Only the office-based practice of these physicians is collected for the study.

There is a sample turnover: the maximum time of participation is 4 consecutive years. The sample turnover is 25% per year (When 297 physicians leave the panel, 297 enter in).

The sampling is performed using the following criteria:

- Specialty
- Age
- Sex
- Geographic area
- Office type
- Demographic category**
- Activity score (SNIR : Système National Inter-Régimes)**

- **Only for GPs

STRATIFICATION CRITERIA: Speciality and region (listed above)**3. Physicians stratified by speciality and region****Spécialistes par région – Specialists by region**

Spécialités Specialists		RP	N	O	E	C	CE	SE	SO	France
Cardiologues	Panel	24	8	12	9	7	9	20	11	100
Cardiologists	Univers	1 103	352	541	419	327	435	917	531	4 625
Dermatologues	Panel	22	5	10	6	5	9	14	9	80
Dermatologists	Univers	875	205	402	261	204	369	568	381	3 265
Endocrinologues	Panel	8	3	5	3	3	4	8	6	40
Endocrinologists	Univers	226	50	130	49	62	102	196	145	960
Gastro-entéro.	Panel	10	4	6	4	3	5	8	5	45
Gastro-entero.	Univers	470	164	280	193	142	234	386	233	2 102
Gynécologues	Panel	25	7	10	8	6	10	14	10	90
Gynaecologists	Univers	1 499	397	635	511	345	611	827	633	5 458
Neurologues	Panel	8	3	5	3	3	6	7	5	40
Neurologists	Univers	166	59	103	66	52	114	142	104	806
Ophthalmo.	Panel	14	4	9	5	4	7	10	7	60
Ophthalmologists	Univers	1 149	309	685	379	327	521	810	536	4 716
ORL	Panel	10	3	5	3	3	4	7	5	40
ENT	Univers	579	141	280	185	143	252	388	260	2 228
Pédiatres	Panel	21	4	7	7	4	8	12	7	70
Paediatricians	Univers	825	160	289	254	157	314	461	270	2 730
Pneumologues	Panel	6	3	5	4	3	4	9	6	40
Pulmonologists	Univers	160	98	140	116	84	129	244	162	1 133
Psychiatres	Panel	33	3	10	7	6	12	17	12	100
Psychiatrists	Univers	2 129	195	638	419	364	738	1 072	787	6 342
Rhumatologues	Panel	10	3	6	4	3	6	8	5	45
Rheumatologists	Univers	427	113	248	153	129	239	333	187	1 829
Urologues	Panel	7	3	6	3	4	5	7	5	40
Urologists	Univers	154	70	122	64	73	114	135	103	835
Total spé.	Panel	5510	1105	2441	1598	1300	2346	3503	2345	790
Total spé.	Univers	9 762	2 313	4 493	3 069	2 409	4 172	6 479	4 332	37 029

4. General practitioners (GPs) stratified by region and type of practice**Médecins généralistes par région et activité – GPs by geography and activity score**

Régions Regions	Panel / Sample				Univers / Universe			
	<3525	[3525-5429]	>5429	Total	<3525	[3525-5429]	>5429	Total
Reg. Parisienne	27	21	19	67	4 189	3 133	2 853	10 175
Nord	8	10	20	38	1 210	1 543	3 034	5 787
Ouest	16	22	24	62	2 482	3 377	3 681	9 540
Est	10	13	15	38	1 533	1 910	2 368	5 811
Centre	10	12	11	33	1 488	1 798	1 647	4 933
Centre-Est	19	17	11	47	2 858	2 594	1 670	7 122
Sud-est	27	22	17	66	4 093	3 302	2 651	10 046
Sud-ouest	16	17	16	49	2 464	2 671	2 425	7 560
Total	133	134	133	400	20 317	20 328	20 329	60 974

5. General practitioners (GPs) stratified by community size/demography category

Médecins généralistes par Habitat – GPs by demography category

Habitat Demography	Panel	Univers
<5 000 hab	120	18 230
[5 000 - 20 000]	84	12 881
[20 000 - 100 000]	80	12 221
> 100 000	49	7 430
Paris et Banlieue	67	10 212
Total	400	60 974

6. Physicians stratified by gender and age

Médecins par sexe et par âge – Doctor by sex and age

Spécialités Specialists		Femmes Women	Hommes Men	<50 ans <50 yo	50-54 ans 50-54 yo	55-59 ans 55-59 yo	>59 ans >59 yo	Total
Cardiologues	Panel	15	85	35	20	20	25	100
Cardiologists	Univers	680	3 945	1 607	920	945	1 153	4 625
Dermatologues	Panel	51	29	21	19	21	19	80
Dermatologists	Univers	2 087	1 178	840	789	839	797	3 265
Endocrinologues	Panel	27	13	16	8	9	7	40
Endocrinologists	Univers	647	313	386	197	205	172	960
Gastro-entéro.	Panel	8	37	14	11	10	10	45
Gastro-entero.	Univers	352	1 750	681	502	452	467	2 102
Gynécologues	Panel	47	43	15	21	26	28	90
Gynaecologists	Univers	2 870	2 588	922	1 287	1 546	1 703	5 458
MG	Panel	117	283	130	86	93	91	400
MG	Univers	17895	43079	19 837	13 154	14 112	13 871	60 974
Neurologues	Panel	13	27	16	9	9	6	40
Neurologists	Univers	266	540	321	178	179	128	806
Ophtalmo.	Panel	25	35	14	15	16	15	60
Ophtalmo.	Univers	1 931	2 785	1 117	1 182	1 245	1 172	4 716
ORL	Panel	5	35	10	9	10	11	40
ENT	Univers	287	1 941	568	524	550	586	2 228
Pédiatres	Panel	38	32	15	15	16	24	70
Paediatricians	Univers	1 481	1 249	579	594	616	941	2 730
Pneumologues	Panel	9	31	11	10	11	8	40
Pulmonologists	Univers	269	864	318	269	325	221	1 133
Psychiatres	Panel	39	61	21	16	26	37	100
Psychiatrists	Univers	2 444	3 898	1 332	1 041	1 616	2 353	6 342
Rhumatologues	Panel	15	30	12	10	11	12	45
Rheumatologists	Univers	603	1 226	491	411	434	493	1 829
Urologues	Panel	1	39	21	7	6	6	40
Urologists	Univers	19	816	437	143	125	130	835
Total	Panel	410	780	351	256	284	299	1 190
Total	Univers	31 831	66 172	29 436	21 191	23 189	24 187	98 003

GREECE**1. General information regarding the physicians' universe and the sample**

Universe Size: 24,967 doctors,
14 Specialties (as of Q4/2010)

Medical Universe 2010

	Speciality	
001	General Practice	1.63%
003	Paediatrics	0.93%
006	Rheumatology	7.09%
007	Gastroenterology	4.69%
008	Cardiology	1.10%
010	Dermatology	1.97%
011	Endocrinology	3.95%
013	Gynaecology	1.11%
016	Otorhinolaryngology	1.74%
018	Urology	2.22%
019	Orthopedics	1.49%
020	Pulmology	1.58%
021	Neurology	1.38%
022	Psychiatry	2.07%
Total		

Geographic: 7 Regions

- 1- Attica-Athens-Piraeus
- 2- Sterea
- 3- Peloponnisus
- 4- Epirus
- 5- Thessaly
- 6- Macedonia/Thrace
- 7- Aegean Islands/Crete.



2. General information regarding the sample

Sample Size: 474 doctors (as of Q4/2011)

Type of sample: Random cluster sample stratified by Specialty and Region

STRATIFICATION CRITERIA: Specialty and region (listed above)

No available data regarding the distribution of the physicians by specialty or region for Greece.

SPAIN**1. General information regarding the physicians' universe**

Universe: 142.967 doctors
(as of Q1/2011)

Specialities analyzed separately: 18

COVERED		NON - COVERED	
	DOCTORS UNIVERSE		DOCTORS UNIVERSE
General Medicine (A.P.)	22.269	Allergy	1.139
Family Medicine (A.P.)	30.743	Anaesthesiology	7.233
Internal Medicine (M.I.)	7.327	Bacteriology	858
Endocrinology (END)	1.649	Geriatrics	1.607
Paediatrics (PED)	12.407	Haematology	2.151
Cardiology (CAR)	3.581	Company Medicine	510
Respiratory System (A.R.)	2.088	Oncology	1.610
Rheumatology (RM)	1.177	Radiology	2.610
Digestive System (A.D.)	2.822	Rehabilitation	1.949
Surgery (CIR)	8.553	Other Specialities	6.058
Traumatology (TR)	6.902		
Dermatology (DR)	2.087		
Ophthalmology (OFT)	4.602		
Toco-Gynecology (T.GI)	7.586		
Neurology (NL)	2.382		
Psychiatry (PSI)	5.798		
Odonto-Stomatology (EST)	14.332		
Otorhinolaryngology (OTO)	2.598		
Urology (URO)	4.064		
TOTAL	142.967	TOTAL	25.725

2. Physicians of the universe stratified by region and specialty

UNIVERSE DESIGN FOR DOCTORS STRATIFIED
BY REGION AND SPECIALTY

	<i>Speciality</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<i>Total</i>
001	Primary Care	5.810	5.325	11.527	2.267	9.171	7.875	11.037	53.012
	001 General Practice	2.867	2.107	4.496	1.059	3.642	3.143	4.955	22.269
	054 Family Practice	2.943	3.218	7.031	1.208	5.529	4.732	6.082	30.743
002	Internal Medicine	700	605	1.864	235	1.640	952	1.331	7.327
003	Pediatrics	1.055	1.144	2.917	401	2.469	2.006	2.415	12.407
006	Rheumatology	100	95	325	32	271	154	200	1.177
007	Gastroenterology	244	269	718	83	544	416	548	2.822
008	Cardiology	347	363	937	115	721	492	606	3.581
009	Surgery	967	850	2.020	301	1.681	1.238	1.496	8.553
010	Dermatology	184	181	557	62	457	301	345	2.087
011	Endocrinology	150	152	470	56	354	200	267	1.649
012	Ophthalmology	499	407	1.153	169	904	665	805	4.602
013	Gynecology	667	642	1.771	222	1.780	1.122	1.382	7.586
015	Odonto-Stomatology	1.460	1.496	3.346	421	2.644	2.179	2.786	14.332
016	Otorhinolaryngology	265	239	652	93	465	398	486	2.598
017	Traumatology	684	697	1.537	230	1.668	952	1.134	6.902
018	Urology	390	352	1.002	156	799	634	731	4.064
020	Pulmology	227	227	491	73	420	280	370	2.088
021	Neurology	218	259	640	78	540	327	320	2.382
022	Psychiatry	502	672	1.383	216	1.479	685	861	5.798
	Total	14.469	13.975	33.310	5.210	28.007	20.876	27.120	142.967

1. General information regarding the sample

Sample: 935 doctors (as of Q1/2011)

Of which: 70% fixed and 30% rotating:

Number of Specialities analyzed separately: 18

Type of sample: Stratified cluster sample

STRATIFICATION CRITERIA:

- Proportional stratification by region and centre size.
- Disproportional stratification by speciality.

Selection Method: At random out of an address register arranged according to the stratification criteria.

Regions:

I. La Coruña, Orense, Pontevedra, Lugo, Oviedo, León.

II. Santander, Vizcaya, Alava, Guipúzcoa, Logroño, Burgos, Navarra.

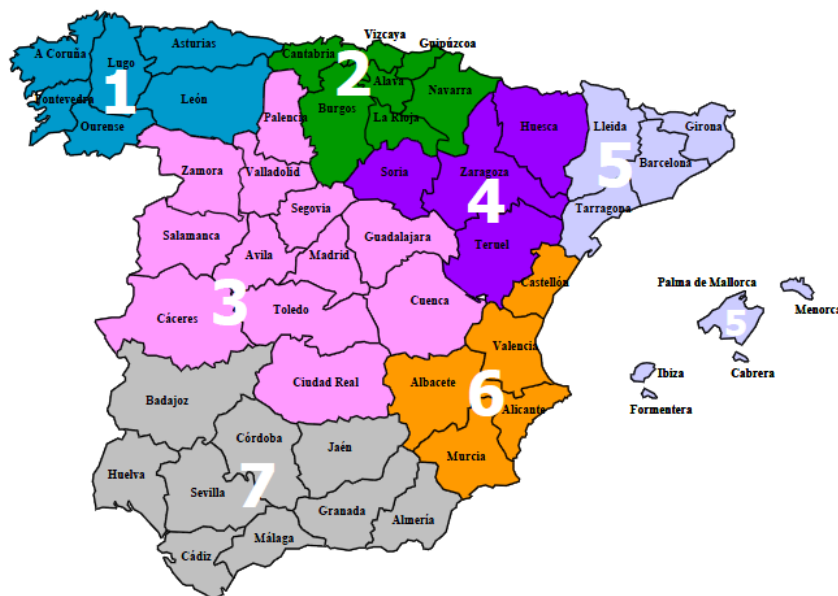
III. Madrid, Toledo, Ciudad Real, Cuenca, Guadalajara, Segovia, Avila, Palencia, Zamora, Valladolid, Salamanca, Cáceres.

IV. Zaragoza, Huesca, Teruel, Soria.

V. Barcelona, Tarragona, Lérida, Gerona, Balears.

VI. Valencia, Castellón, Alicante, Albacete, Murcia.

VII. Jaén, Almería, Granada, Málaga, Badajoz, Huelva, Cádiz, Sevilla, Córdoba.



Community Size:

0 - 5.000

5.001 - 30.000

30.001 - 100.000

100.001 - 1.000.000

More than 1.000.000

2. Physicians of the sample stratified by region and specialty

**DOCTOR PANEL STRATIFIED BY REGION
AND SPECIALTY**

<i>Speciality</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<i>Total</i>
001 General Practice	34	30	63	12	51	46	64	300
001 General Practice	21	15	32	7	26	23	36	160
054 Family Practice	13	15	31	5	25	23	28	140
002 Internal Medicine	4	4	12	3	8	6	8	45
003 Pediatrics	6	6	14	3	13	11	12	65
006 Rheumatology	3	2	8	1	7	4	5	30
007 Gastroenterology	4	4	10	3	9	6	9	45
008 Cardiology	4	5	10	3	9	6	8	45
009 Surgery	3	3	8	1	6	4	5	30
010 Dermatology	3	3	7	1	7	4	5	30
011 Endocrinology	3	3	8	1	6	4	5	30
012 Ophthalmology	3	3	9	3	7	5	5	35
013 Gynecology	4	4	9	3	10	7	8	45
015 Odontology	4	5	9	3	8	7	9	45
016 Otorhinolaryngology	3	3	7	1	6	5	5	30
017 Traumatology	3	4	7	3	8	5	5	35
018 Urology	3	3	7	1	6	5	5	30
020 Pulmology	3	3	8	1	6	4	5	30
021 Neurology	3	3	8	1	7	4	4	30
022 Psychiatry	3	4	8	1	10	4	5	35
Total	93	92	212	45	184	137	172	935

POLAND**1. General information regarding the physicians' universe**

Universe size: 49.907 Doctors (bases on the PolishMedical Mailing Sp. z.o.o).
(as of Q4/2005)

Geographic: 3 Regions

1-Central

2-East

3-West

Specialities:

Family Practice

Internal Medicine

Paediatrics

Cardiology

Dermatology

Gynecology

Ophthalmology + ORL

Urology

Neurology + Psychiatry

Others (Rheumatology, Gastroenterology, Surgery, endocrinology, Orthopedy, Pulmology, Diabetology, allergology)

SPECIALITY	
002	Internal Medicine
054	Familiy Practice
003	Pediatrics
008	Cardiology
010	Dermatology
013	Gynecology
012	Ophthalmology
016	Otorhinolaryngology
018	Urology
021	Neurology
022	Psychiatry
	Others
006	Rheumatology
007	Gastroenterology
009	Surgery
011	Endocrinology
019	Orthopedy
020	Pulmology
025	Diabetology
030	Allergology

SAMPLE 565 Doctors

Type of sample: Stratified Random Sample.
(as of Q4/2005)

STRATIFICATION CRITERIA Stratification disproportional by specialities.

Selection method: At random out of an address register arranged according to the stratification criteria.

2. Physicians of the universe stratified by region and speciality

PLMI Universe 2005/2006

SPECIALITY	REGION									TOTAL		
	1 Central			2 East			3 West					
	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total
002 Internal Medicine	0	4.071	4.071	0	1.652	1.652	0	2.944	2.944	0	8.667	8.667
054 Familiiy Practice	0	1.968	1.968	0	1.335	1.335	0	2.248	2.248	0	5.551	5.551
003 Pediatrics	0	2.813	2.813	0	1.185	1.185	0	2.124	2.124	0	6.122	6.122
008 Cardiology	652	530	1.182	244	87	331	328	270	598	1.224	887	2.111
010 Dermatology	197	729	926	50	303	353	117	571	688	364	1.603	1.967
013 Gynecology	1.204	1.280	2.484	522	458	980	942	1.027	1.969	2.668	2.765	5.433
012 Ophthalmology	197	971	1.168	75	377	452	139	801	940	411	2.149	2.560
016 Otorhinolaryngology	370	844	1.214	157	289	446	294	610	904	821	1.743	2.564
018 Urology	287	127	414	90	28	118	187	75	262	564	230	794
021 Neurology	456	726	1.182	244	256	500	298	503	801	998	1.485	2.483
022 Psychiatry	284	551	835	133	220	353	230	407	637	647	1.178	1.825
Others												
006 Rheumatology	106	388	494	69	171	240	88	265	353	263	824	1.087
007 Gastroenterology	197	154	351	63	36	99	94	57	151	354	247	601
009 Surgery	760	607	1.367	364	211	575	629	537	1.166	1.753	1.355	3.108
011 Endocrinology	144	181	325	70	63	133	79	118	197	293	362	655
019 Orthopedy	554	337	891	236	81	317	370	191	561	1.160	609	1.769
020 Pulmology	205	351	556	98	150	248	150	249	399	453	750	1.203
025 Diabetology	177	195	372	66	66	132	91	111	202	334	372	706
030 Allergology	112	259	371	35	64	99	64	167	231	211	490	701
TOTAL	5.902	17.082	22.984	2.516	7.032	9.548	4.100	13.275	17.375	12.518	37.389	49.907

3. Physicians of the sample stratified by region and speciality

PLMI Sample Design 2005/2006

SPECIALITY	REGION									TOTAL		
	1 Central			2 East			3 West					
	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total	InP./OutP.	OutP.	Total
002 Internal Medicine	0	34	34	0	16	16	0	25	25	0	75	75
054 Family Practice	0	12	12	0	9	9	0	14	14	0	35	35
003 Pediatrics	0	28	28	0	11	11	0	21	21	0	60	60
008 Cardiology	11	9	20	4	1	5	6	4	10	21	14	35
010 Dermatology	2	7	9	1	3	4	1	6	7	4	16	20
013 Gynecology	9	9	18	4	4	8	6	8	14	19	21	40
012 Ophthalmology	2	7	9	1	3	4	1	6	7	4	16	20
016 Otorhinolaryngology	4	8	12	1	3	4	3	6	9	8	17	25
018 Urology	9	4	13	3	1	4	6	2	8	18	7	25
021 Neurology	5	7	12	2	3	5	3	5	8	10	15	25
022 Psychiatry	4	7	11	2	3	5	3	6	9	9	16	25
Others												
019 Orthopedy	8	5	13	3	1	4	5	3	8	16	9	25
020 Pulmology	4	8	12	2	3	5	3	5	8	9	16	25
006 Rheumatology	2	7	9	1	4	5	1	5	6	4	16	20
007 Gastroenterology	8	7	15	2	2	4	4	2	6	14	11	25
009 Surgery	6	5	11	3	2	5	5	4	9	14	11	25
011 Endocrinology	4	6	10	2	2	4	2	4	6	8	12	20
025 Diabetology	5	6	11	1	2	3	3	3	6	9	11	20
030 Allergology	3	7	10	1	2	3	2	5	7	6	14	20
TOTAL	86	183	269	33	75	108	54	134	188	173	392	565

Appendix 4: Arguments in favour of fixed or rotating panels

From a statistical perspective there are arguments in favour of fixed panels as well as rotating samples:

Pro "Fixed Panel"

Growth Rates and Data Fluctuation: constant panels produce more accurate growth rates and absolute deltas. This is due to the fact that the monthly/quarterly variances don't simply add up but the co-variance between the two periods can be deducted. In the end product, less fluctuation is shown and more stable/robust data from one cycle to another - a very important criterion when clients are assessing the quality of our data.

Panel QC: Due to the longer collaboration, IMS Health is able to better control atypical behaviour, low reporting and unusual changes. There is a learning curve during the initial cycles where IMS Health can help and feed back to the doctor how to produce more complete and valid input. On top, there is a closer relationship with our panel management which has a positive impact on the reporting behaviour.

Representativeness: Fixed panels allows for a better control of the design accomplishment. It furthermore, through quality controls, allows rejecting physicians that do not meet IMS Health quality standards in terms of reporting completeness and consistency. These factors have a positive influence on the representativeness of IMS Health medical data.

Longitudinal Analyses: fixed doctor codes are used which gives the option to run long-term analyses for panel physicians who have been within the panel for more than a year or so. This gives additional opportunities for ad-hoc data insights.

Pro "Rotating Sample"

"Panel aging": It may happen that a fixed panel loses representation of the universe as young physicians entering the universe have a lower likelihood to be part of the panel.

"Volume estimates": Samples have a higher accuracy of volume estimates (e.g. MAT total prescriptions), as the individual quarterly samples are statistically independent and no co-variance effect has to be accounted for. Also, on a yearly basis, many more physicians will be reached as compared to a fixed sample. This also could have a positive impact on the yearly data estimates. For example, if 300 new physicians are in the panel every three months, 1200 different physicians per year will be reached out for.

In weighting the arguments in favour for either sampling system IMS Health follows a balanced approach. There is also a non-induced and natural panel turn over which occurs due to practice behaviour of physicians or the fact that they are retiring with a rapid pace in some countries like France.

DATE DE CONSULTATION	LIEU DE CONSULTATION	PATIENT	CATÉGORIE SOCIO-PROFESSIONNELLE		
12/01/12 JJ MM AA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> Clinique <input type="checkbox"/> Domicile	Age 56 ans Sexe M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Bébé _____ mois Poids _____ kg (- de 24 mois)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Agriculteur <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Artisan, Commerçant <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Cadre supérieur Profession libérale <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Profession intermédiaire (administrative et commerciale)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Employé <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Ouvrier <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Retraité <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Chômeur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9 Autre <input type="checkbox"/> Sans activité professionnelle Étudiant invalidité
1 ^{er} DIAGNOSTIC ou à défaut MOTIF de CONSULTATION			Arthrite		
ACTES : Traitements ou examens pratiqués AU COURS de cette consultation					
PRESCRIPTION(S) DE PRODUIT(S), avec ou sans AMM, DISPOSITIFS MÉDICAUX → NON (Veuillez passer à la question suivante "AUTRES PRESCRIPTIONS", si nécessaire) → OUI (Merci de préciser ci-dessous) Vous pouvez joindre l'ordonnance du patient, le report du n° du produit sur l'ordonnance vous permettra de ne pas récapituler les prescriptions, cependant il est impératif de compléter les informations concernant l'indication et le renouvellement du produit.			Patient recevant pour le 1 ^{er} fois ce produit (molécule) ↓ En initiation d'un nouveau traitement ↓ En remplacement d'un autre produit ↓ En addition au traitement existant		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
AUTRES PRESCRIPTIONS			<input type="checkbox"/> Courrier <input type="checkbox"/> Certificat <input type="checkbox"/> Arrêt de travail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biologie <input type="checkbox"/> Rééducation fonctionnelle <input type="checkbox"/> Verres correcteurs / Lentilles <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration (Radio, Echo, Scopes) <input type="checkbox"/> Autres (précisez) :		
2 ^{ème} DIAGNOSTIC ou à défaut MOTIF de CONSULTATION			HTA		
ACTES : Traitements ou examens pratiqués AU COURS de cette consultation					
PRESCRIPTION(S) DE PRODUIT(S), avec ou sans AMM, DISPOSITIFS MÉDICAUX → NON (Veuillez passer à la question suivante "AUTRES PRESCRIPTIONS", si nécessaire) → OUI (Merci de préciser ci-dessous) Vous pouvez joindre l'ordonnance du patient, le report du n° du produit sur l'ordonnance vous permettra de ne pas récapituler les prescriptions, cependant il est impératif de compléter les informations concernant l'indication et le renouvellement du produit.			Patient recevant pour le 1 ^{er} fois ce produit (molécule) ↓ En initiation d'un nouveau traitement ↓ En remplacement d'un autre produit ↓ En addition au traitement existant		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
PRODUIT <input type="checkbox"/> POSOLOGIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 N° du produit à reporter sur l'ordonnance Précisez le dosage Précisez la forme (pil, crème, ...) Nombre de prises par jour Durée totale de ce 1 ^{er} produit plan Jour(s) Mois			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
AUTRES PRESCRIPTIONS			<input type="checkbox"/> Courrier <input type="checkbox"/> Certificat <input type="checkbox"/> Arrêt de travail <input type="checkbox"/> Biologie <input type="checkbox"/> Rééducation fonctionnelle <input type="checkbox"/> Verres correcteurs / Lentilles <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration (Radio, Echo, Scopes) <input type="checkbox"/> Autres (précisez) :		

Appendix 6: Prescribing Insight – Ipad screenshot in Spain

ims | epm Menú Salir Conectado

Paciente anterior **Paciente** 1 **Edad:** 33 **Años** **Meses** **Sexo:** **Varón** **Mujer** **Tipo de visita:** **Pública** **Privada** **Fecha de visita:** 23 de marzo de 2012 **Finalizar paciente**

Diagnóstico 1 **+**

AMIGDALITIS + SINUSITIS AGUDA **×** **Primera vez** **Visita repetida** **Patología aguda** **Patología crónica** ☐ **Sin tratamiento**

Medicamento 1 **×**

Medicamento prescrito

Principio activo **Marca** **Genérico** ☐ **Frecuentes**

AMOXICILINA CLAVULANICO ACOST **×**

Recomendaría **Marca** **Genérico**

Forma de presentación

TABLETAS RECUBIERTAS 500MG 12 **×**

TABLETAS RECUBIERTAS 500MG 12

TABLETAS RECUBIERTAS 875MG 12

TABLETAS RECUBIERTAS 875MG 24

Acción deseada

COMBATIR INFECCION **×**

unidades ☐ **A demanda** **Frecuencia**

0.5 **2** **-**

1 **3 veces** **Día**

2 **4** **Días alternos**

Duración ☐ **TLD** **Número de envases prescritos** **1**

- **día** **Comentarios**

1 **semana**

2 **quincena**

Elección de terapia **Tipo de terapia**

☒ **Decisión personal** ☒ **Nueva**

☐ **Iniciada por otro especialista** ☐ **Continuación**

☐ **Cambio**

Añadir otro medicamento

Appendix 7: Example of aggregated data received by IMS from the NDI database

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	AI	Region Na	AT	Molecule	Reimbursement Sta	Speciality	Diagnosis	Manufacturer	Product	Str	Pack	PAge	PSex	Units April - September 201		
2	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	71 - 80	F	169 990		
3	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	71 - 80	M	83 619		
4	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	61 - 70	F	142 451		
5	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	61 - 70	M	70 756		
6	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	81 - 90	F	83 919		
7	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	81 - 90	M	43 522		
8	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	51 - 60	F	70 365		
9	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	51 - 60	M	35 253		
10	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	41 - 50	F	9 199		
11	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	41 - 50	M	6 606		
12	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	91 - 100	F	6 023		
13	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	91 - 100	M	3 558		
14	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	31 - 40	F	918		
15	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	31 - 40	M	884		
16	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	21 - 30	M	87		
17	NDA	Romania	C01D	TRIMETAZOLINE	Reimbursed	GP	025003 CHR ISCHAEM HRT DIS	SERVIER	PREDUCTAL MR	35MG	FIL.C.TAB.MR 35MG 60	21 - 30	F	56		