

Developing guidelines for use of intravenous immunoglobulins using evidence based criteria

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Since the 1980s, the use of intravenous immunoglobulins (IVIg) has increased significantly. Currently, while there are only six FDA approved indications, the literature reports use of IVIg for more than 90 different indications. However, in many of the indications, the data is limited by weak study design, inadequate patient numbers and lack of control groups and it is therefore very difficult for the practicing pharmacist to be aware of the indications and have the knowledge to advise on the appropriate use, dosage and outcomes for this myriad of indications. At The Ohio State University

Medical Center, we reviewed the literature for IVIg utilization, determined the quality of the literature and assigned the strength of evidence, developed four categories of utilization based on evidence and developed searchable database to assist in providing information on IVIg indications. Ninety-one indications were reviewed with 20 primary indications, 18 secondary indications, 29 third line indications, and 24 fourth line indications. The database was divided into medical fields of interest (e.g. dermatology, neurology, hematology, etc.) and specialists in each field have validated the appropriate assignment of each indication. The final database, with links to the key representative articles, is available as an interactive tool for the practicing clinician, helping to guide their use of IVIg.

This project addresses Objective 3.1 and 3.2 for the ASHP 2015 Initiative.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT TOOL

1. [Sample IVIG Database](#) (Excel)

These "2015 Success Stories" highlight successes in implementing one of the ASHP [2015 Objectives](#). Tools and resources are also provided for each success story. For more information, email 2015@ashp.org or send your "Success Story" accompanied by a [permission form](#) (PDF).