ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION

Chronic laryngitis is considered a common condition, and is seen by greater than three weeks. There are no previous estimates of the incidence of chronic laryngitis for comparison. This work provides a guide for future investigators and policymakers. Given the current estimate of 8,600 otolaryngologists in the U.S. total, our data indicate approximately 170 cases per otolaryngologist per year.

METHODS

This was an IRB-approved retrospective cross-sectional study using existing EHR data. We defined our primary care population as all patients over 18 years old who saw a primary care provider (MD/NP in a primary care internal medicine or family medicine clinic). To capture patients with a potential diagnosis of chronic laryngitis, we began by searching the EHR for all patients with one of the following added to the problem list by a healthcare provider: o ICD-9 code 476.0 (chronic laryngitis) o ICD-9 code 464.0 (acute laryngitis) o Other throat discomfort/pain (ICD-9 784.x) to the chart. In the initial visit, proton pump inhibitors were most commonly prescribed, followed by voice therapy. Ten percent of subjects received no intervention/counseling alone (figure 2). 92% were seen by an otolaryngologist. There are no previous estimates of the incidence of chronic laryngitis for comparison. This work provides a guide for future investigators and policymakers. Given the current estimate of 8,600 otolaryngologists in the U.S. total, our data indicate approximately 170 cases per otolaryngologist per year.

DISCUSSION

There are no previous estimates of the incidence of chronic laryngitis for comparison. This work provides a guide for future investigators and policymakers. Given the current estimate of 8,600 otolaryngologists in the U.S. total, our data indicate approximately 170 cases per otolaryngologist per year. There are multiple limitations to this study: We captured only those who had complaints and presented to our clinic. Not all providers added problems to the list consistently. Other ICD-9 codes or free-text entries may have been missed.

REFERENCES