

Costs Associated with Thoracic Cystic Echinococcosis

Data from a Single Center in Italy
(2021–2023)

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Background

Thoracic Cystic Echinococcosis (TCE) is caused by the localization of *E. granulosus* metacestode in the lungs or pleural space.

- Traditionally managed by surgery; no prior detailed cost analysis available.



Methods

- Retrospective analysis of direct treatment costs (2021–2023).
 - All patients treated in the same thoracic surgery unit.
 - Costs based on standard national in-hospital cost database.
 - Data collected on clinical presentation, surgery type/duration, hospital stay.

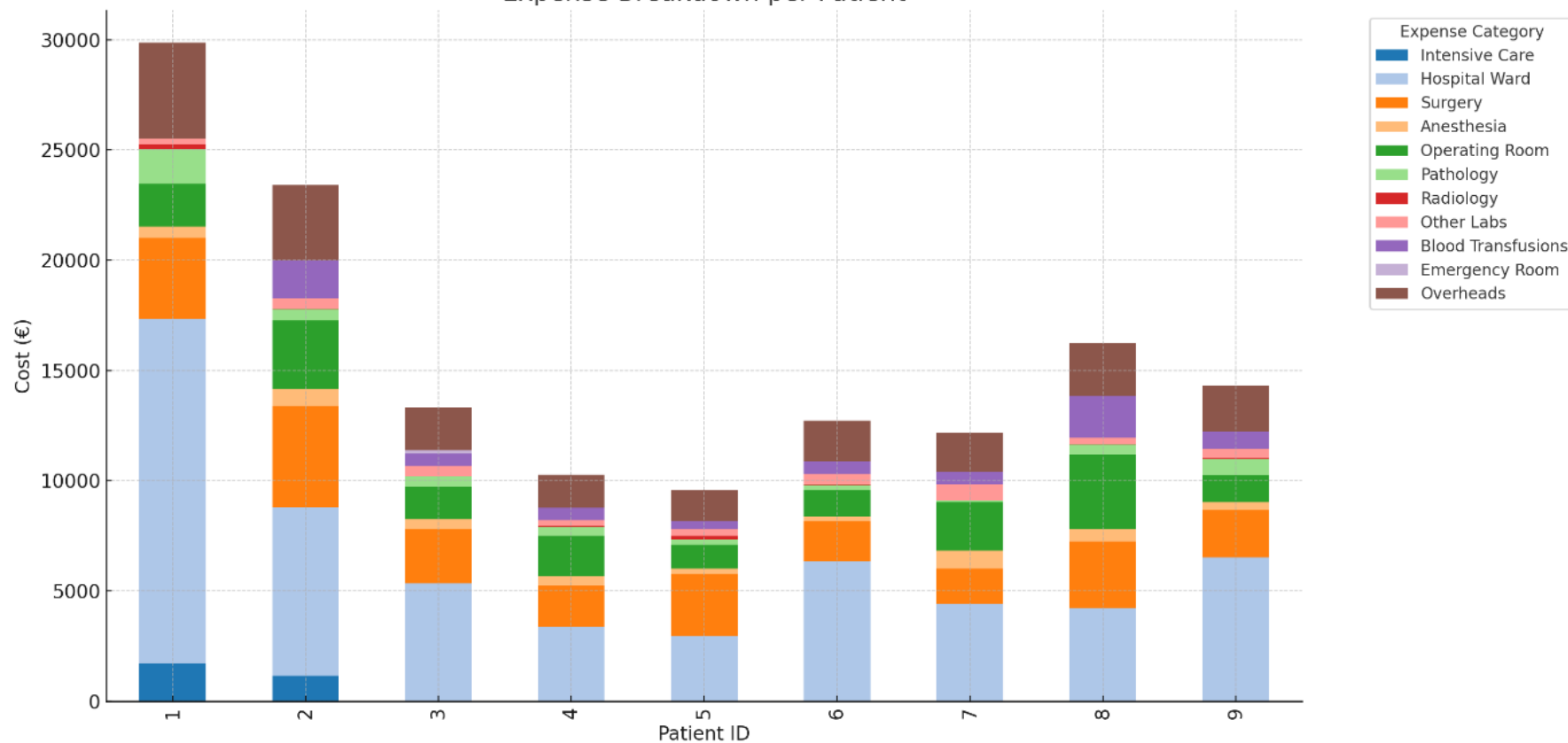
Results

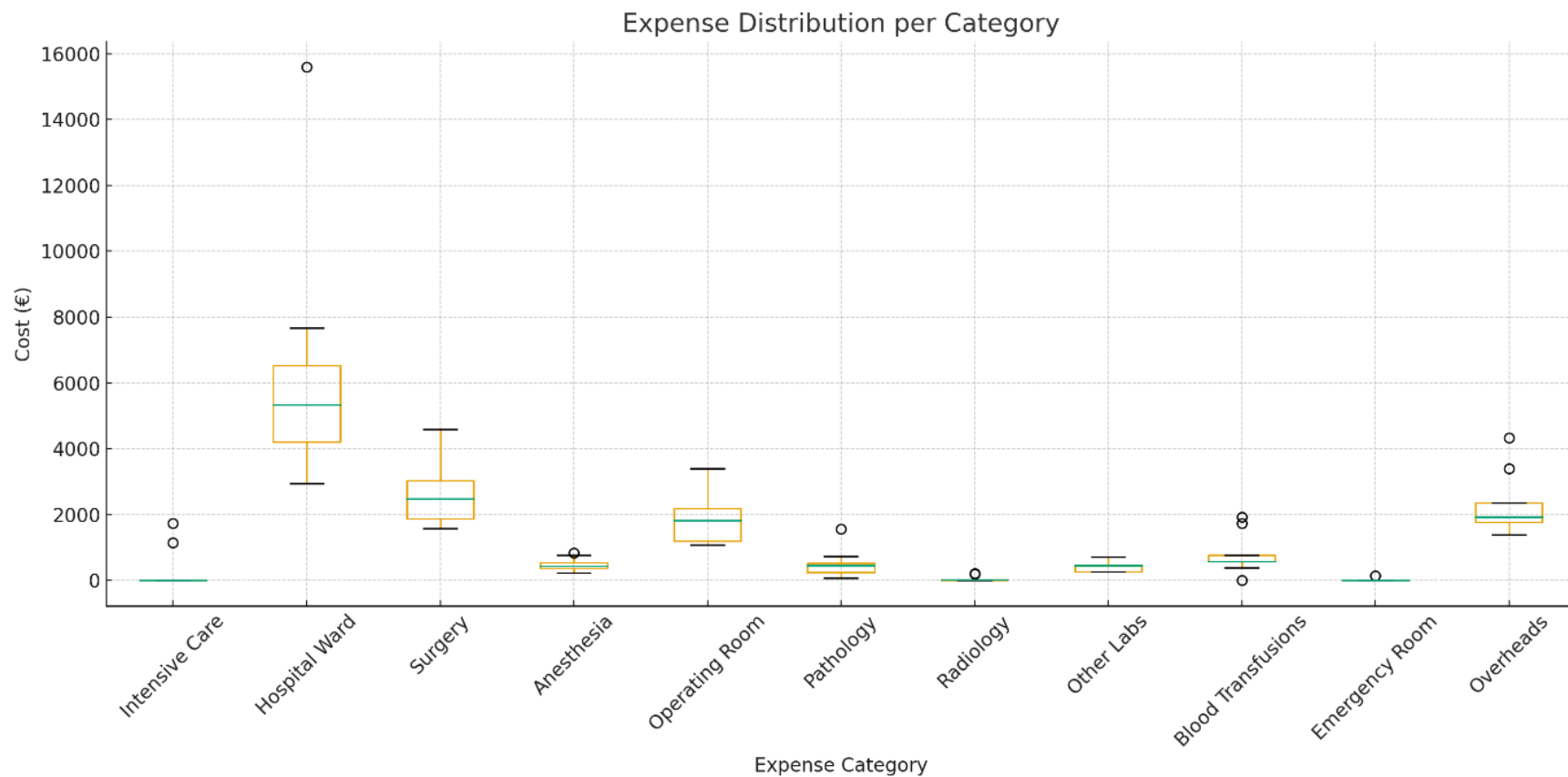
- Nine patients; median age 33.
 - Elective surgeries; conservative approach (one wedge resection). Four VATS, five thoracrtomies
 - Most had 1 CE cyst (range 1–10), size 3.1–15 cm.
 - Median surgery duration: 215 min (range 52–414).
 - Median hospital stay: 10 days (range 6–37).
 - Median overall cost: 13,331.4 € (range 9,564–29,849 €).

Lesion Characteristics

- Locations:
 - Two mediastinal cysts.
 - One pleural involvement.
 - All others intraparenchymal.
 - Two cases lacked complete size/number data.

Expense Breakdown per Patient





Discussion

- First study reporting direct costs of surgically managed TCE cases.
 - Costs higher than other thoracic surgery procedures in some settings.
 - Similar small study for abdominal CE found a similar result for abdominal CE
 - Benign nature of TCE and differences in methodology may explain disparities.
 - Other studies often use discharge records rather than direct cost analysis.

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[10.1007/s00464-010-1315-4](#)

10.1093/ejcts/ezae222.

[10.21037/jtd.2018.01.123](#)

[10.1007/s10198-007-0047-4](#)

[10.4269/ajtmh.16-0187](#)

Merci!

