

Consumption of antidepressants in Chile from 1992 to 2004 Consumo de antidepresivos en Chile entre 1992 y 2004

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Background: Data from the Ministry of Health show that in Chile in 2004, 17% of the population had some form of depression and mood disorders are the tenth cause of disability-adjusted life years (DALY) loss. **Aim:** To determine consumption of antidepressants (ADs) in Chile from 1992 to 2004.

Material and methods: National sales data were obtained from the company IMS Health Chile and converted into defined daily doses (DDDs) per 1,000 inhabitants per day. Available ADs were classified in four pharmacological groups (i.e., serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors, SNRIs; selective-serotonin reuptake inhibitors, SSRIs; tricyclic antidepressants, TCAs; and others). Total economic burden of ADs utilization and cost per DDDs were also calculated. Trends over time were analyzed using Pearson-R2. **Results:** Total ADs consumption in Chile measured by DDDs per 1,000 inhabitants per day (DHD) increased linearly ($y = 0.901x + 1.9129$; $R^2 = 0.9296$; $p < 0.001$) from 2.5 in 1992 to 11.7 in 2004 (total grow