# Healthcare resource use for pediatric low-grade glioma care: a cohort of linked electronic health records and claims data

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### Background

- Pediatric low-grade glioma (pLGG) is the most common brain tumor in children, accounting for approximately 30% of all central nervous system tumors<sup>1</sup>
- Despite the indolent nature of low-grade lesions and high longterm survival, pLGG is associated with persistent long-term tumor- and treatment-related morbidities<sup>2-5</sup>

### **Objective**

• We conducted a retrospective study of linked claims and electronic health records (EHRs) to characterize the costs associated with the treatment of pLGG

### Methods

- A retrospective study was performed using the Optum<sup>®</sup> deidentified Market Clarity Dataset linked claims (commercial, Medicare advantage and Managed Medicaid beneficiaries) and EHRs of cases ≤18 years of age, with an ICD-10 code for brain neoplasm and  $\geq 1$  physician notes between January 01, 2017 and June 30, 2018 (Figure 1)
- The index date was first claim or EHR with an ICD-10 code for brain neoplasm
- pLGG-relevant data from physician notes was identified using natural language processing
- The observation period included 3 months prior to index date (pre-index) and 6-month segments from index date for 36 months (post-index)
- Cases had either continuous EHR activity or continuous insurance coverage in this period
- Results for procedures and medication use were reported as averages throughout the 36-month post-index follow-up period

### Results

- Of 2841 patients assessed for eligibility, a total of 154 patients with pLGG were identified (**Figure 1**)
- Median age was 11 years, 49% of patients were female, 75% were non-Hispanic white, 13% Hispanic, 5% African American, 1% Asian and 6% other/unknown
- 56% had commercial benefits and 44% had Medicaid benefits
- Study results are reported with ranges over a three-year follow-up period (**Figures 2–6**)



### A. Most common reasons for healthcare utilization in the overall study period (n=154)

Respiratory infection Behavioral issues Nausea / vomiting Tired / weakness astrointestinal complaints ermatological complaints Injury / accident Hematological disorders Body temperature issues Visual disturbances Psychiatric disorders Drug reaction or toxicity Orthopedic complaints Developmental delay Neurological disorders Sleep issues Balance and coordination issues Skin discoloration Developmental disability

pLGG for that time period

### B. Select reasons for healthcare utilization over time in 6-month intervals\*













\*n for each of the time periods indicates the number of patients in the study cohort that had ≥1 EHR of symptoms and signs of pLGG for that time period. †Includes management of cutaneous toxicities due to targeted therapy

### Figure 1. Study design and profile

### Figure 2. Reasons for healthcare utilization



Dermatological complaints

\*n for each of the time periods indicates the number of patients in the study cohort that had ≥1 EHR of symptoms and signs of

Drugs for neurocognitive disorders

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