

Text 1

Estimation of personnel fees, material and infrastructures

Data related to the costs of general materials and infrastructure costs (Table 4) and personnel (Table 5), were provided by the Bureau of Management of the University Hospital of Salamanca.

Only data of 2017 were available at the moment of the study. As our study lasted one year, these annual data were assumed for the study.

To estimate the cost per patient for personnel fees, the global figure attributed to the Allergy outpatient Clinic (that included the laboratory of allergy) was divided by the number of patients seen during 2017. Data for personnel, materials and infrastructures were also divided by the number of patients seen during 2017, with a total of 296 patients (it was impossible to obtain monthly data). Although the time dedicated by the staff to a particular patient varies with the disease, with the diagnostic or with the therapeutic procedure, as fees of staff are not paid per particular medical acts in Spain, it was assumed that the cost of each patient was the same.

The number of visits of patients valuated at the outpatient allergy clinic during 2017 was 25,239 (first and successive visits). We have calculated consumption and personnel costs proportionally to the number of visits of our patients (714 visits). Each time a patient assisted to the outpatient allergy clinic, a visit was considered.

Costs of general expenses (material and infrastructures) were equally attributed to all patients seen in 2017.