

S11-7 LCM from the perspective of health economics

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Originally, life cycle management (LCM) should be the one contributing to patients and innovation in medical treatments. Discussions as to the contribution, however, have arisen, because LCM has been used, in some cases, just to block penetration of generic drugs, limiting contribution of generic drugs to lower patients' economic burden and to financially improve Japan's healthcare insurance system.

Lower value-added LCM might not lead to higher valuation of the corresponding drug in drug pricing and could trigger new restrictions that damage pharmaceutical companies. On the other hand, seeking higher value-added LCM with understanding of "unmet medical needs" is desirable. Moreover, findings and know-how that have been accumulated under higher value-added LCM can be used for further research and development of innovation drugs.