

COST-MINIMIZATION FOR A NOVEL IBS DIAGNOSTIC BLOOD PANEL VERSUS STANDARD EXCLUSIONARY DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FOR DIARRHEA PREDOMINANT IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME: A UNITED STATES PERSPECTIVE

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INTRODUCTION

- Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) is a chronic gastrointestinal disorder characterized by abdominal pain, bloating, discomfort and changes in bowel habit
- A published article (2005) estimated the prevalence of irritable bowel syndrome to be 14.1% (medically diagnosed 3.3%; undiagnosed, but meeting irritable bowel syndrome criteria 10.8%)
- IBS has a significant impact on the sufferer's health and quality of life; also, there are significant social and economic ramifications
- There are three distinct sub-types: diarrhea predominant (IBS-D), constipation predominant (IBS-C) and mixed (IBS-M)
- Diagnosing IBS-D involves a combination of symptom-based criteria (ROME III). However, diagnosing IBS-D involves differentiating this condition from organic diseases such as celiac disease and inflammatory bowel disease
- The anti-transglutaminase test (anti-tTG) is a reliable method to identify patients with celiac disease. Other diagnostic tests commonly used in the process of diagnosing patients who present with IBS-D symptoms include: complete blood count (CBC), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), C-reactive protein (CRP), thyroid function test (TFT) and liver function test (LFT)
- Also, diagnostic procedures to rule out other organic conditions may include: colonoscopy, endoscopy, ultrasound and abdominal CT scan
- IBS presents a significant health burden to patients and to the healthcare system in the US both in terms of significant direct and indirect (i.e. absenteeism) medical costs
- IBScheK™ is a novel diagnostic blood panel (for IBS-D) which involves measuring antibody levels for cytolethal distending toxin B (anti-CdtB) and vinculin (anti-vinculin)
- Animal studies have demonstrated that an IBS-like phenotype can be produced when host antibodies to CdtB cross-react with vinculin
- This biomarker has recently been validated in a large clinical trial (TARGET-3)
- This novel diagnostic blood test may provide significant benefits for patients who present with IBS-D symptoms by avoiding unnecessary testing procedures and a shorter time to diagnosis and treatment

OBJECTIVES

- The primary aim of this study was to compare the costs associated with two differing diagnostic pathways in gastroenterology practice in the US: (1) The IBScheK™ diagnostic pathway vs. (2) the exclusionary diagnostic pathway for patients who present with IBS symptoms
- The secondary objective of this study was to extend the results of the cost-minimization model (CM) to a budget impact analysis for a health plan

Figure 1: Decision Tree Model (CM1)

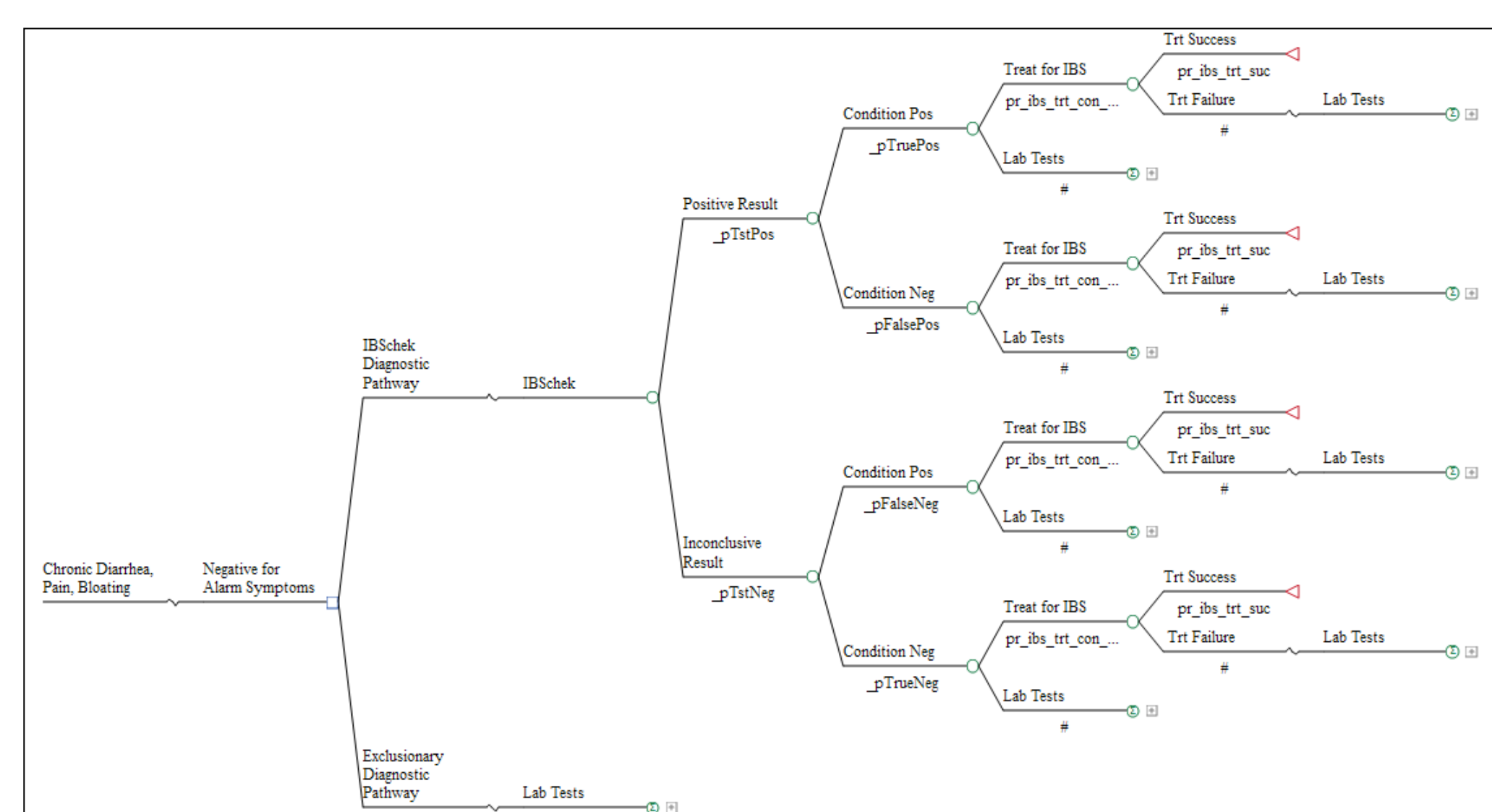
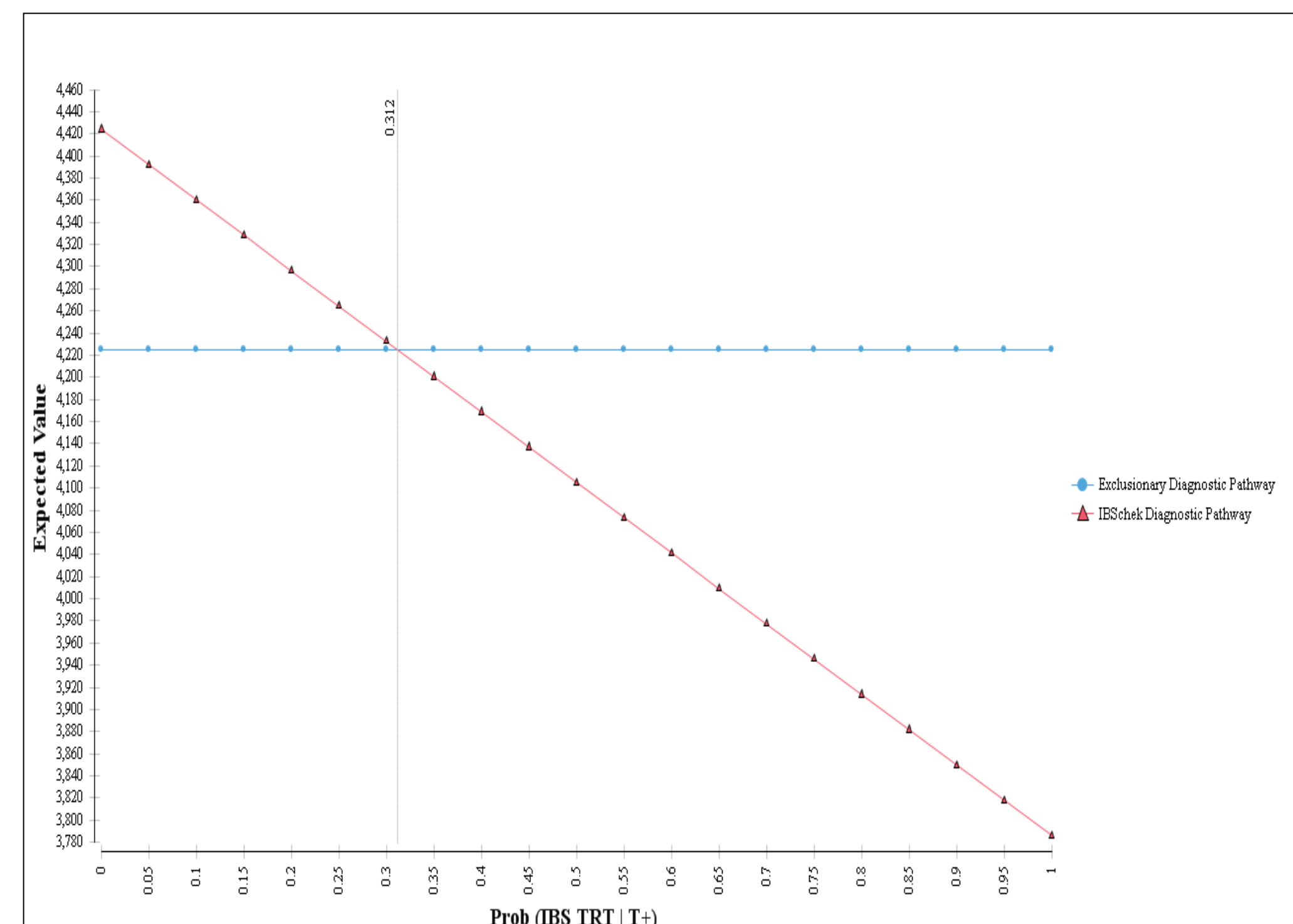


Table 1: CM Results (CM1)

Diagnostic Pathway	Setting	Pre-test Prob Dis +	Prob (IBS TRT T+)	Prob (IBS TRT T-)	Expected Cost	Cost (Savings)
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.763	0%	0%	4424	199
Exclusionary	GI	NA	NA	NA	4225	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.763	25%	0%	4265	40
Exclusionary	GI	NA	NA	NA	4225	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.763	50%	0%	4105	(120)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	NA	NA	4225	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.763	75%	0%	3945	(280)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	NA	NA	4225	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.763	100%	0%	3786	(439)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	NA	NA	4225	

Pre-Test Prob Dis +: Probability of IBS-D in the US in a patient consulting for Diarrhea, Bloating and Pain. Prob (IBS TRT | T+): Probability that a patient will receive treatment conditional on a positive test result. Prob (IBS TRT | T-): Probability that a patient will receive treatment conditional on a negative test result.

Figure 2: Sensitivity for Pr (IBS TRT | T+) (CM1)



Prob (IBS TRT | T+): Probability that a patient will receive treatment conditional on a positive test result

STUDY DESIGN & METHODS

- A cost-minimization (CM) decision tree model was constructed to compare the costs associated with two possible diagnostic pathways: (1) diagnostic pathway with novel IBS diagnostic blood panel and (2) exclusionary diagnostic pathway (i.e. standard of care)
- The setting for the model are gastroenterologists within the US
- The model structure (CM Model 1) was based on current literature and guidance from IBS expert clinicians (Figure 1, Table 1)
- New data became available after the abstract submission; therefore the model and the results (cost-minimization and budget impact) (CM Model 2) have been updated accordingly (Figures 3-6; Tables 2,3)
- For both models (CM 1 and CM 2), the probabilities for test utilization were taken from an IBS survey of practicing gastroenterologists
- Country specific costs (US) were used to populate both models
- The probability that patients will proceed to treatment was modeled as a function of the sensitivity, specificity and likelihood ratios of the individual biomarker tests (Tables 3)
- These probabilities are computed as follows:

$$\text{Post-test Odds (D+)} = \frac{\text{Pre-test Odds (D+)} \cdot \text{LR(CDTB)} \cdot \text{LR(Vinculin)}}{1 + \text{Pre-test Odds (D+)}}$$
- One-way sensitivity analyses were performed for key input variables (Table 2)
- For both models, a sensitivity analysis was performed with respect to the pre-test probability of disease (IBS-D) (Figure 2, Figure 4)
- The budget impact analysis (BIA) extrapolates results of the CM Model 2 to a health plan with 1 million covered lives (Table 3)
- TreeAge Pro 14 was used for cost-minimization modeling; Microsoft Excel 2010 was used for budget impact modeling

RESULTS (CM Model 1)

- Colonoscopy, endoscopy, computed tomography and ultrasound were the most common diagnostic procedures reported with estimated utilization rates of 0.625, 0.400, 0.306 and 0.294
- The corresponding charges were \$2,727, \$1,375, \$2,175 and \$370.50
- The base case for the pre-test probability of disease (IBS-D) was estimated to be 0.763
- The CM model predicts a base case savings of \$280 per patient for the diagnostic pathway that includes the novel IBS diagnostic blood panel
- Sensitivity analyses predict a range of cost savings of \$120 to \$439
- Budget impact analysis predicts a base case savings of \$1,080,232 to the plan or \$0.09 on a per member per month basis for the diagnostic pathway with the novel IBS diagnostic blood panel
- The time dependent model indicates that the potential cost savings associated with the novel IBS blood test are attenuated over time

RESULTS (CM Model 2)

- For the base-case, the CM model predicts a cost savings of \$509 for the novel IBS diagnostic blood panel vs the exclusionary diagnostic pathway, due to the avoidance of downstream testing (e.g. colonoscopy, CT scans) (Table 2)
- A sensitivity analysis was performed for a pre-test probability of disease, for a range of values from 0.363 to 0.963; under this scenario, the outcomes range from an additional cost of \$142 for the diagnostic blood panel to a cost savings of \$840 for the diagnostic blood panel (Table 2)
- The sensitivity analysis for the pre-test probability of disease indicates that the break-even occurs at 0.451 (Figure 4)
- The sensitivity analysis for the probability of IBS treatment in the exclusionary branch of disease indicates that the break-even occurs at 0.652 (Figure 5)
- The sensitivity analysis for the probability of treatment success indicates there is no break-even for this variable (Figure 6)
- For the BIA, as the proportion seeking care is varied from 10% - 100% the cost savings varies from \$0.06 to \$0.61 PMPM (Table 3)

Figure 3: Decision Tree Model (CM2)

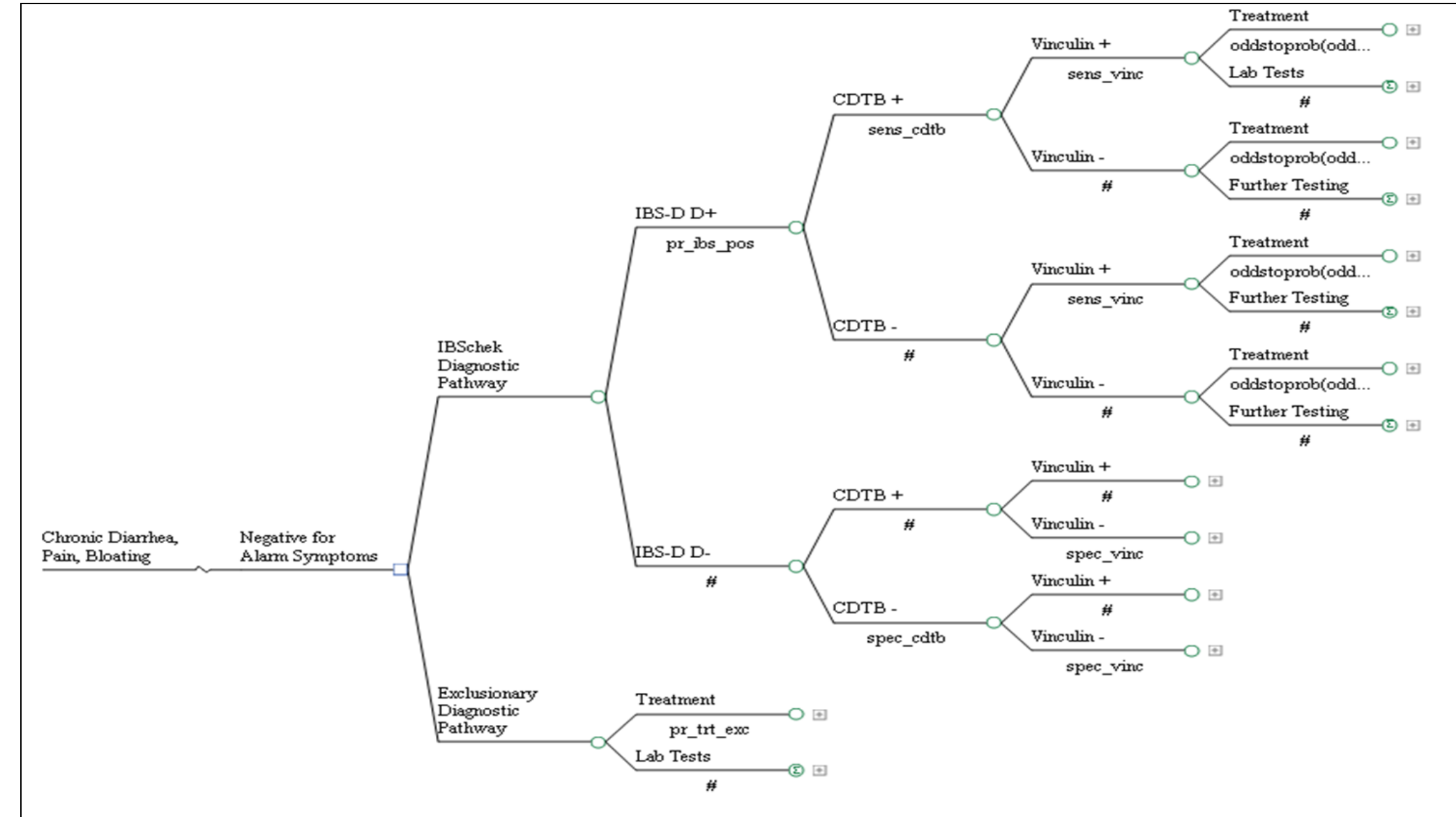


Table 2: CM Results (Model 2)

Diagnostic Pathway	Setting	Pre-test Prob Dis +	Prob (IBS TRT) Exclusionary	Expected Cost	Cost (Savings)
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.363	NA	4141	142
Exclusionary	GI	NA	20.0	3999	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.463	NA	3980	(19)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	20.0	3999	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.563	NA	3817	(182)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	20.0	3999	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.663	NA	3654	(345)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	20.0	3999	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.763	NA	3490	(509) [1]
Exclusionary	GI	NA	20.0	3999	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.863	NA	3325	(674)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	10.0	3999	
W/ IBScheK™	GI	0.963	NA	3159	(840)
Exclusionary	GI	NA	0.0	3999	

1 - Base case

Figure 4: Sensitivity for Pre-Test Pr(D+) (CM2)

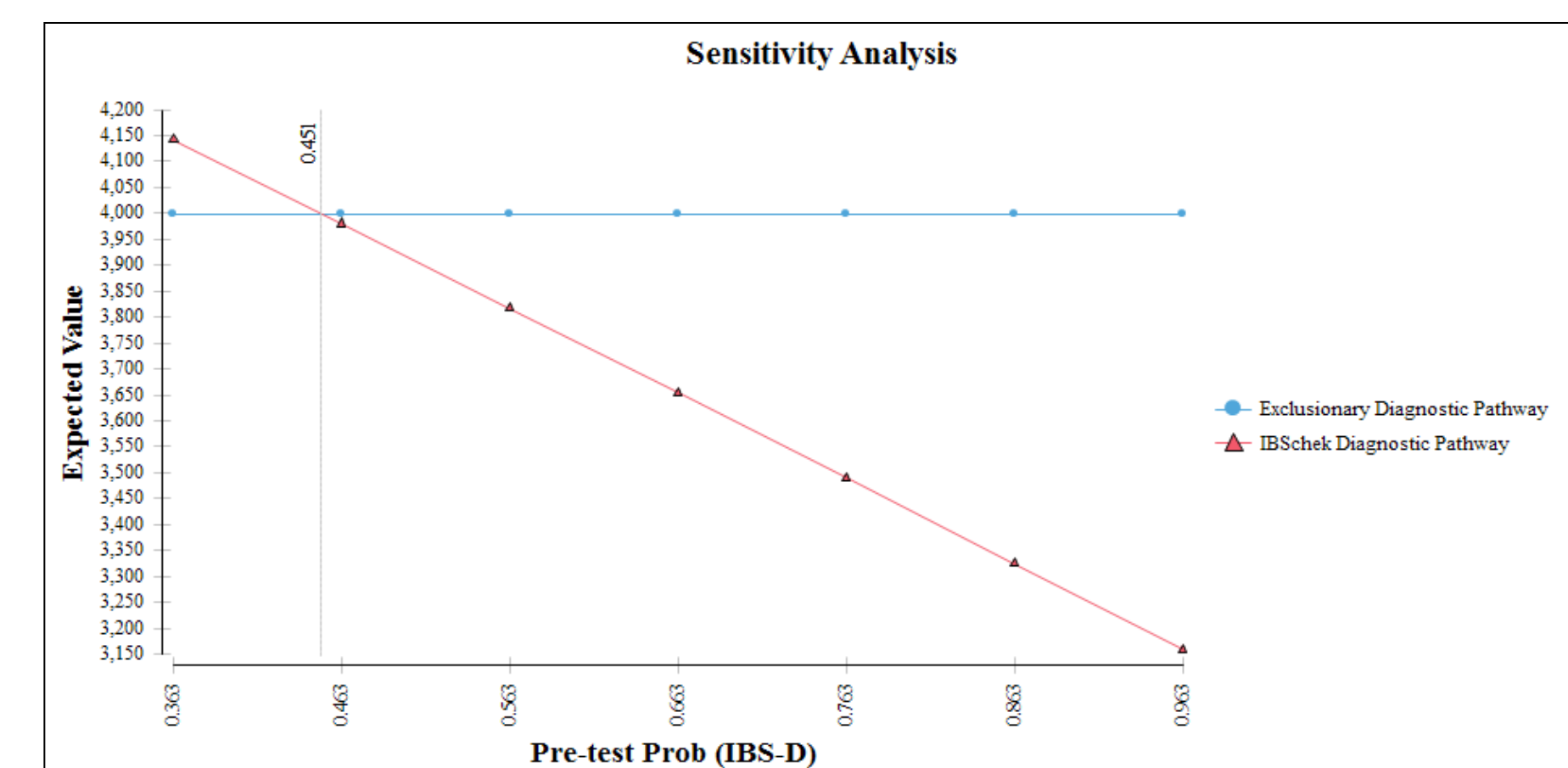


Figure 5: Sensitivity for Pr (IBS TRT | Exc Br) (CM2)

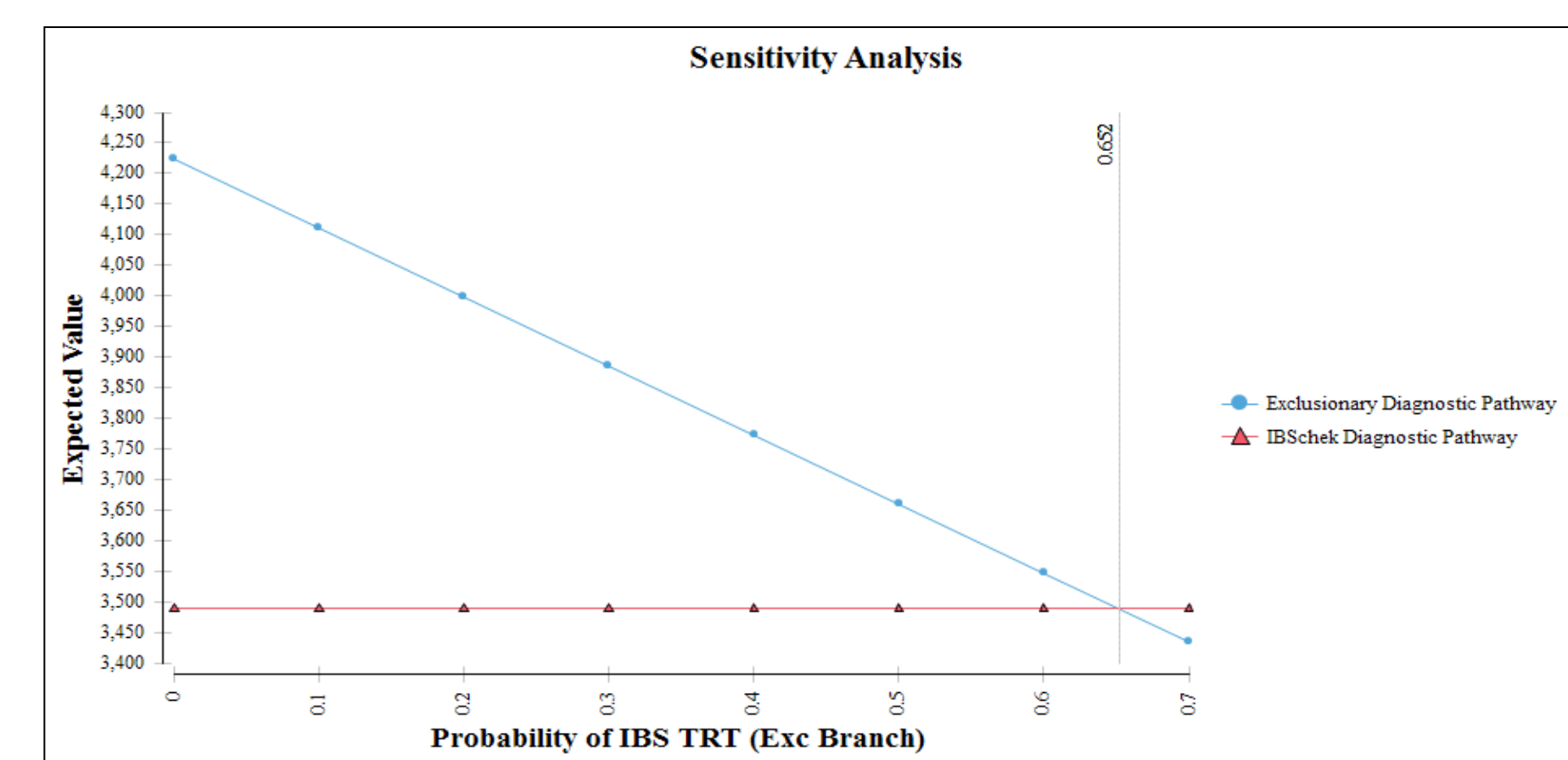


Figure 6: Sensitivity for Pr (TRT Success) (CM2)

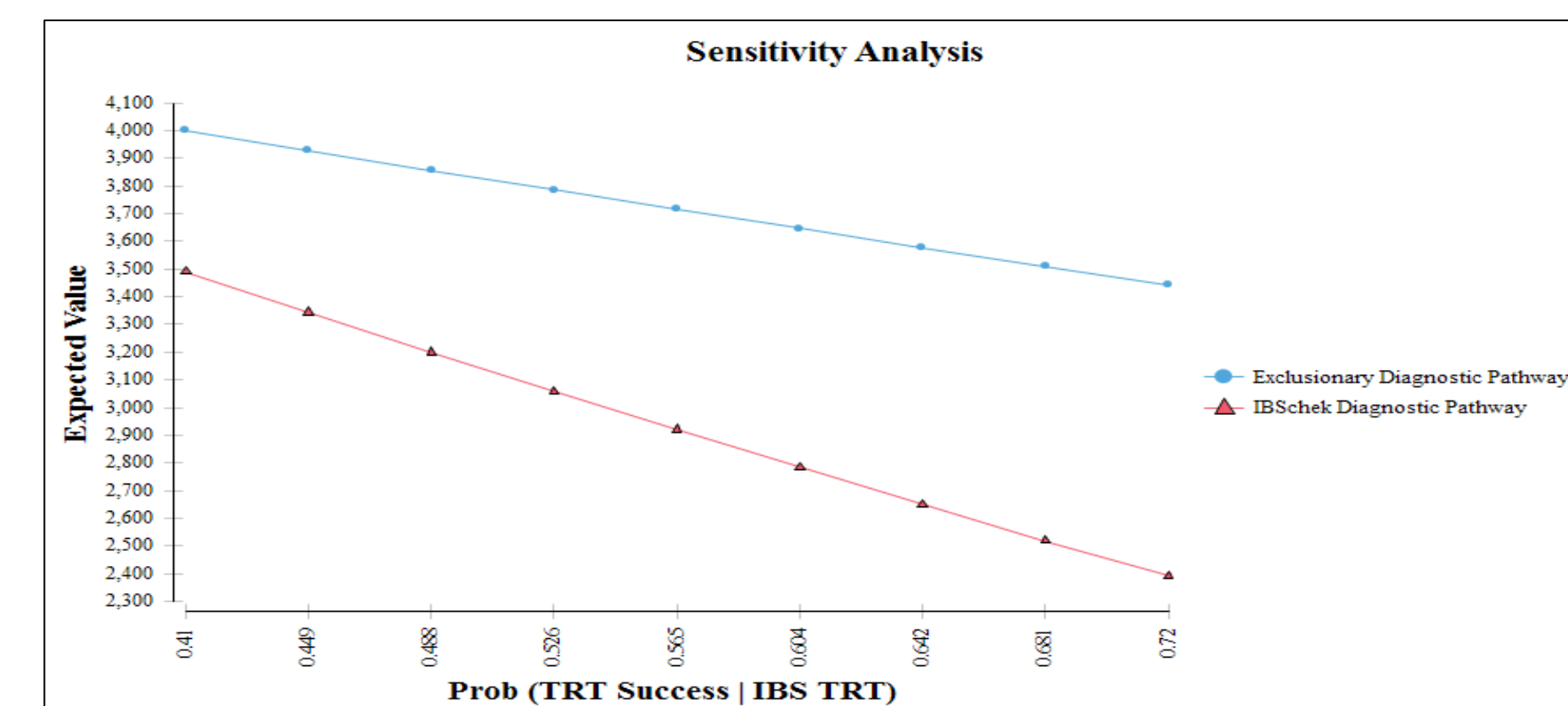


Table 3: Budget Impact Analysis (CM2)

Covered Lives [1-5]	Proportion Seeking Care	Number of Individuals Seeking Care	Net Cost if 100% of Patients Diagnosed with Exclusionary Path	Net Cost if 50% Exclusionary Path, 50% IBScheK™	Cost (Savings)	Cost (Savings) PMPM
1,000,000	10%	2,856	\$ 11,421,144	\$ 10,694,292	\$ (726,852)	\$ (0.06)
1,000,000	20%	5,712	\$ 22,842,288	\$ 21,388,584	\$ (1,453,704)	\$ (0.12)
1,000,000	30%	8,567	\$ 34,263,432	\$ 32,079,132	\$ (2,180,302)	\$ (0.18)
1,000,000	40%	11,423	\$ 45,684,576	\$ 42,773,424	\$ (2,907,154)	\$ (0.24)
1,000,000	50%	14,279	\$ 57,105,720	\$ 53,467,716	\$ (3,630,006)	\$ (0.30)
1,000,000	60%	17,135	\$ 68,526,864	\$ 64,162,008	\$ (4,360,858)	\$ (0.36)
1,000,000	70%	19,991	\$ 79,948,008	\$ 74,856,300	\$ (5,087,710)	\$ (0.42)
1,000,000	80%	22,846	\$ 91,369,152	\$ 85,546,847	\$ (5,814,307)	\$ (0.48)
1,000,000	90%	25,702	\$ 102,790,296	\$ 96,241,139	\$ (6,541,159)	\$ (0.55)
1,000,000	100%	28,558	\$ 114,211,440	\$ 106,935,431	\$ (7,268,011)	\$ (0.61)

1 - Assumption: HMO with 1 million covered lives.
 2 - IBS Prevalence = 14.1% (Hungin AP, Chang L, Locke GR, Dennis EH, Barghout V. Irritable bowel syndrome in the United States: prevalence, symptom patterns and impact. Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2005 Jun; 12(11):1565-75.)
 3 - IBS-D Prevalence within IBS = 32.2% (IBS Physician Survey (Administered by AHRM Inc. (April - June of 2015))
 4 - Proportion of US population within 18-64 age group (92.9%)
 5 - <http://www.census.gov/prod/2010/briefs/c2010br03.pdf>
 6 - Pre-test probability of disease estimated to be 0.763 (from cost-minimization model)

CONCLUSIONS

- Current medical literature suggests that extensive testing to diagnose IBS is often not recommended
- For patients who present with IBS-D symptoms in the US, this evaluation predicts that the inclusion of a novel Diagnostic Blood Panel in the diagnostic process has the potential for significant cost savings due to the avoidance of downstream testing
- Sensitivity analyses indicate that the pre-test probability of disease (IBS-D) has a significant impact on cost outcomes
- Both cost-minimization models predict significant cost savings for the Diagnostic Blood Panel arm

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DISCLOSURES

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 Dr. Mark Pimentel has acted as scientific consultant for Commonwealth Laboratories, LLC and Commonwealth Diagnostics International, Inc.

