INTRODUCTION
Healthcare spending on medications has continued to rise over the years, presenting a dilemma with affordable medications, notably in the field of orthopedics. To combat this issue, the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company (MCCPDC) platform has been established as an alternative to lower the financial burden placed on patients. The goal of this study is to assess the differences between MCCPDC and Medicare Part D orthopedic medication pricing.

METHODS
- We performed a cross-sectional analysis on the price difference between between MCCPDC and Medicare Part D 2021 spending data for:
  - Gout
  - Muscle relaxants
  - Pain and inflammation medications
  - Steroids
- Prices, including shipping fees, were included for tablets and capsules in the minimum quantity (30ct) and maximum quantity (90ct).
- The unit costs, and total savings, and standardized unit prices for 30ct and 90ct prescriptions were calculated and compared between MCCPDC and Medicare medications.

RESULTS
Figure 1: 30ct Comparison

Figure 2: 90ct Comparison

CONCLUSION
Our findings illustrate large potential savings observed for many common orthopedic 30ct and 90ct medications, with a more substantial cumulative cost difference observed in 90ct medications. Hence, our study highlights the potential benefits of MCCPDC in optimizing Medicare expenditures for covered drugs, potentially enhancing cost-efficiency in healthcare. A careful analysis of specific prescribed medications are needed in order to capitalize on the potential savings.

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