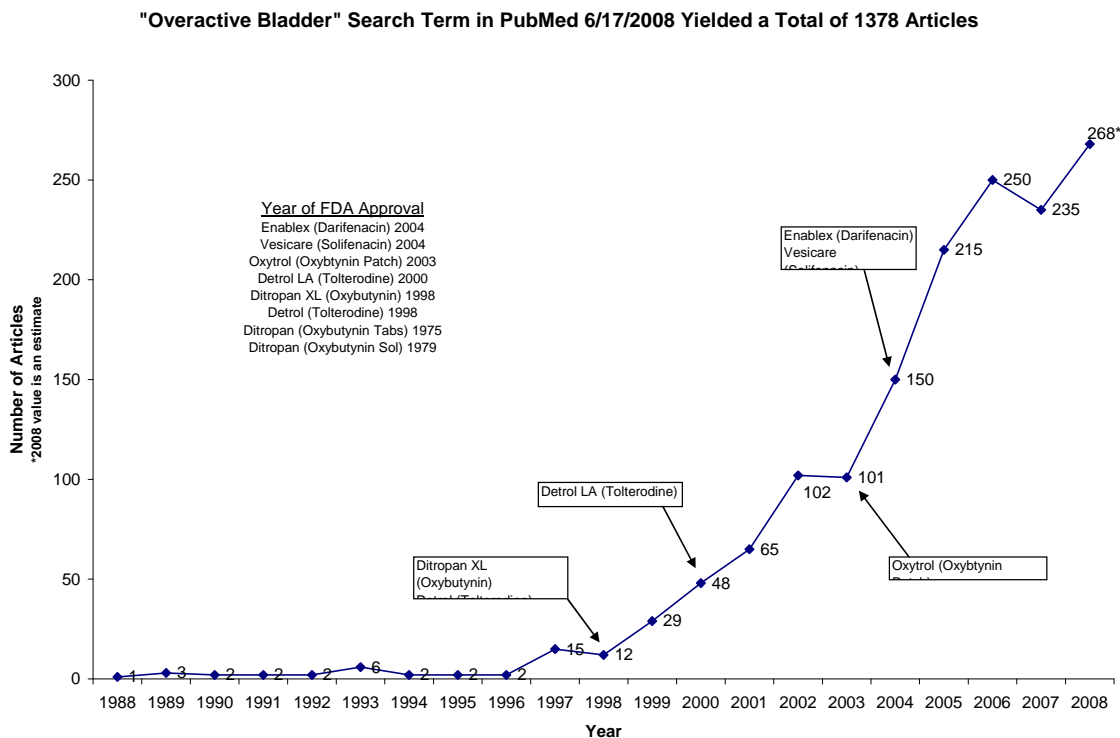


# The Economic Impact of Treating Overactive Bladder

Center for Drug Information and Research

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In collaboration with LECOM, School of Pharmacy Faculty, the Center for Drug Information and Research will be analyzing the economic impact of treating overactive bladder. Overactive bladder has been alleged by a former New York Times Journalist as being created by a pharmaceutical manufacturer.<sup>1</sup> The potential creation of the disease has led to an increasing amount of literature and new drug development over the past decade. Below is a figure documenting the rise of overactive bladder in the medical literature since 1988, along with the year of FDA approval of many medications used to treat the disease.



This class of medications classified as anticholinergics used to treat the questionable disease has very minimal efficacy on reducing the number of micturations when compared to placebo according to FDA package inserts. According to the National Overactive Bladder Evaluation (NOBLE) Program overactive bladder increases in prevalence with age.<sup>2</sup> This poses a significant problem to current drug therapy with anticholinergics. Anticholinergics are a class of medications that have been earmarked for being potentially inappropriate in the elderly population according to the Beers List.<sup>3,4</sup> Additionally,

anticholinergics as a class have been documented to cause confusion, blurry vision, urinary retention and constipation.

It is our goal to determine the economic impact of the medical treatments of this questionable disease, overactive bladder.

#### References:

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