**Supplementary Table 1.** Cost comparison based on discogram use for the treatment of lower back pain with positive discogram at L4-L5 (Scenario 3).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Discogram Use | Average Cost Comparison | *P*-value |
| Never vs Rarely Sometimes Often |  $3,471 vs $8,404 $16,677 $19,243 | <0.001\*<0.001\*<0.001\* |
| Rarely vs Sometimes Often |  $8,404 vs $16,677 $19,243 | <0.001\*<0.001\* |
| Sometimes vs Often |  $16,677 vs $19,243 | 0.178 |

\*statistically significant at *P* < 0.01

**Supplementary Table 2.** Cost comparison based on discogram use for the treatment of lower back pain with positive discogram at L4-L5 and L5-S1 (Scenario 4).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Discogram Use | Average Cost Comparison | *P*-value |
| Never vs Rarely Sometimes Often |  $3,587 vs $7,686 $15,491 $19,519 | 0.003\*<0.001\*<0.001\* |
| Rarely vs Sometimes Often |  $7,686 vs $15,491 $19,519 | <0.001\*<0.001\* |
| Sometimes vs Often |  $15,491vs $19,519 | 0.070 |

\*statistically significant at *P* < 0.01