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A Systemic Review: The Impact of Patient Counselling on Medication Adherence in Hypertensive Patients

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ARTICLE DETAILS

ABSTRACT

Research Paper

Keywords:

counselling, Hypertension, Adherence, Blood pressure, Medication One of the main global public health concerns is hypertension (HTN). contributing to 13% of worldwide mortality and increasing the cardiovascular disease risk, renal failure and stroke. Medication adherence is critical for managing hypertension effectively, yet poor adherence remains a significant barrier to optimal treatment outcomes. This systematic study assesses how counseling interventions affect hypertension patients' blood pressure control and medication adherence. 23 papers in all, including cross-sectional analysis, quasiexperimental research, and randomized controlled trials, were examined.. Findings indicate that pharmacist-led interventions, health literacy programs, and digital health strategies significantly improve adherence and blood pressure outcomes. Key factors influencing adherence include patient knowledge, social support, and personalized counseling. Despite the effectiveness of these interventions, challenges such as socioeconomic disparities, comorbidities, and rural residence impact adherence levels. A multifaceted approach integrating patient education, behavioral counseling, pharmacist-led support, and technological tools is recommended for sustainable hypertension management. Future research should focus on personalized strategies that address individual barriers to adherence. A

collaborative, patient-centered approach is essential for improving long-term medication adherence and reducing hypertension-related complications.

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INTRODUCTION

Hypertension (HTN) is among the most important public health concerns. which is also thought to be the primary risk factor for death worldwide. In addition to being a major risk factor for the development of cardiovascular disease, which affects 25% of adults, hypertension currently contributes 13% of deaths worldwide. [1] The mortality and morbidity rates associated with hypertension are significant in India. In India, hypertensive heart disease was responsible for over 2.5 million disability-adjusted life years and 98,912 deaths, according to the 2017 Study on the Global Burden of Disease. [2] It is the main risk factor for coronary artery disease (CAD), heart failure, and stroke and if left unchecked, it can have a negative impact on health. [3] One reason for the rise in yearly morbidity and mortality is the trend toward sedentary living. he risk of heart disease can be decreased by heeding recommendations. Blood pressure management is linked to certain specific diseases. That can greatly reduce the risk of having potentially fatal heart, brain, or kidney issues. Insufficient understanding and noncompliance may result in uncontrollable problems that impact blood pressure [1,4] The Number of Hypertension Prevalence As the number of cases of hypertension rises annually, it is projected that 1.15 million people worldwide, or almost 29% of the entire population, would have the condition in 2025 [5]. Patients with hypertension should follow a healthy lifestyle and the combination of medication and counselling Those who require adjustment include those who suffer from hypertension. [6] Uncontrolled blood pressure may be discouraged by adherence to this therapy. [7] A few studies were conducted to determine medication adherence in patients using different medication adherence scales and to compare medication adherence in hypertension patients with treated and uncontrolled situations.

A consistently elevated systolic blood pressure of 140 mmHg or higher and a diastolic blood pressure of 90 mmHg or higher are the hallmarks of hypertension, sometimes referred to as high blood pressure. [8]

Blood pressure is commonly expressed as the ratio of the diastolic blood pressure (the pressure when the heart relaxes) to the systolic blood pressure (the pressure that the blood applies to the artery walls when the heart contracts). [9]



MEDICATION ADHERENCE

described as "the degree to which a patient's behavior complied with a healthcare provider's recommendations." [10] is consistent with • The most crucial element influencing therapy results is medication adherence, particularly for individuals with long-term conditions like hypertension. • No matter how effective the medication is, it won't work unless the patient takes it. Because it substantially undermines the advantages of modern medical care and places a heavy cost on both individual patients and the health care system overall, low drug adherence has gained prominence. [11]

COUNSELLING

The process of giving patients information, guidance, and support to help them take their medications as prescribed is known as patient counselling. Patients are more likely to use their drugs safely and effectively if they are knowledgeable about them. Primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare are offered in India, and the majority of patients are treated with medication. Most prescribers don't have much time to explain how to use these drugs to their patients because of their busy schedules. Insufficient knowledge could lead to the patient not taking the drug as prescribed, which could lead to side effects, therapeutic failure, more costs for research and treatment, or even hospitalization. The following outcomes are the goal of effective patient counselling: Findings, improved comprehension of the condition by the patient. Better adherence to medicines More efficient medication therapy decreased rates of prescription errors, side effects, and needless medical expenses enhanced patient quality of life. [12]

METHODS

LITERATURE SEARCH STRATEGY

This review article offers a comprehensive summary of several research that were selected based on a certain theme. The secondary data used in this study came from the findings of earlier research projects rather than direct observations. Research articles having a predetermined theme and national and worldwide recognition served as secondary data sources. PubMed and Google Scholar are two databases used in this systematic review's literature search, which spans the years 2015–2024.

Utilize keywords to narrow down or broaden your search so that it's easier to find the article you're looking for. The terms counselling AND adherence, counselling AND blood pressure, and counselling AND

hypertension are used in the search strategy. Finding articles in the order of title, abstract, and full text is how the search is conducted. Counselling impact on hypertension patients' adherence and blood pressure management has been documented in 200 publications. Twenty-three studies were chosen for the final analysis out of the original 200 research.

RESULT

Table 1. Outcome of Article Extraction

No	Reference(s)	Type of Study	Type of intervention	Outcome
		Medication	A comprehensive	The 12-month nonadherence
1)		possession ratio	pharmacist	rate of 20.3% in the
		(MPR) is the scale	intervention	intervention group
		for a randomized	involving six	compared to 30.2% in the
		controlled	months of telephone	control group demonstrated
		experiment.	follow-up,	a substantial improvement
	[13]		medication, review,	in medication adherence.
			customized	
			adherence	
			counseling with	
			motivational	
			interviewing, and	
			joint care	
		study using a cross-	Patient information	The intervention group's
		sectional	leaflets (PILs) are	systolic blood pressure
		methodology and	used in patient	significantly decreased by
	[14]	observational	counseling and	10 mmHg (p < 0.0001).
2)		analysis	education.	
		study using a cross-	Evaluation of	discovered a significant
		sectional	patients'	relationship between

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		methodology and	understanding of	patients' comprehension
3)	[15]	observational	hypertension and its	levels and their compliance
		analysis	relationship	with
			adherence to	Treatment of hypertension
			medication	
			Knowledge-Level	
			Scale for	
			Hypertension;	
			Adherence to	
			Medication and	
			Refills Scale	
			(ARMS)	
4		Prospective	Patient counseling	According to the study,
	[16]	interventional study	sessions led by a	hypertension patients'
			clinical pharmacist	medication adherence
			with an emphasis on	significantly improved after
			managing	seeing the clinical
5			hypertension and	pharmacist.
			drug adherence	
6	[17]	Randomized	Program for health	Medication adherence
		controlled trial	literacy-based self-	considerably improved and
			management	mean systolic and diastolic
			education	blood pressures dropped
				following the intervention.
7	[18]	Cross-sectional	Assessment of health	Both traits were significantly
		study	literacy and social	connected with improved
			support	medication adherence.
8	[19]	A Quasi -	A cognitive-	The intervention group
		Experimental Study	behavioral treatment	demonstrated significant
		1	l	

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			aimed at improving	improvements in treatment
			older patients'	plan adherence and a
			adherence to	reduction in the proportion
			antihypertensive	of patients with uncontrolled
			medication through	hypertension when
			psychoeducation and	compared to the control
			cognitive	group.
			restructuring	
9	[20]	Cross-sectional	This study is	The degree of medication
		study	observational and	adherence among
			most likely makes	hypertension patients is the
			use of self-reported	main outcome.
			adherence a	The study might also look at
			validated medication	factors that impact
			adherence scale, like	adherence, including as
			the Morisky	demographics, awareness of
			Medication	hypertension, side effects,
			Adherence Scale	and medical support.
			(MMAS).	
10	[21]	Quasi-	A multidisciplinary	Over a three-month period,
		Experimental Study	approach that	The systolic and diastolic
			includes education,	blood pressure
			counseling, and	measurements of the
			frequent follow-ups	intervention group were
			to help older	considerably lower than
			hypertension	those of the control group,
			individuals better	according to the study.
			regulate their blood	
			pressure.	
	<u> </u>			

[22] Knowledge Comparing the intervention 11 pretest-posttest interventions groups to the control group, control group are design that is quasipresented at different notable gains were seen in experimental. frequency (single the treatment of and double hypertension and drug exposures) in two adherence. Interestingly, the formats: Direct audio-visual version Interaction (DI) and double exposure was less Audio-Visual (AV). successful. HyCompS, or the Hypertension Compliance Scale 12 [23] Quasi-experimental Over The a two-year intervention group study with control period, trained experienced a significant and intervention volunteers offer decrease in dietary risk intensive health factors, smoking, and low group education with an levels of physical activity. emphasis Improvements in medication on improvements adherence and blood in lifestyle and pressure control were also drug adherence. noted. 13 [24] Pre-intervention, sessions for patient The intervention group had education with the improved drug adherence intervention. and post-intervention goal of increasing than the control group. of phases comprise understanding this hypertension and the quasiexperimental of significance controlled study. taking medications as prescribed.

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14)	[25]	Quasi-experimental	a three-month	The intervention group had
		design.	mobile health	better medication adherence
			initiative aimed at	and blood pressure control
			raising patients'	than the control group.
			health literacy.	
15	[26]	Quasi-experimental	A three-month	The intervention group's
			interdisciplinary	blood pressure was better
			approach that	regulated and their systolic
			includes monthly pill	and diastolic readings were
			counts, medication	lower than those of the
			adherence education,	control group.
			family-supportive	
			care, community-	
			based care, and the	
			use of computerized	
			pill boxes as	
			reminders.	
16	[27]	Quasi-experimental	Health education	Significant gains in
			programs designed	hypertension-related
			to enhance seniors'	knowledge and self-care
			understanding,	practices were observed
			preventative	when comparing the
			techniques, and self-	intervention group to the
			care habits about	control group.
			hypertension	-
17	[28]	Cross-sectional	The study evaluated	Medication non-adherence
			antihypertensive	was more likely to occur in
			medication	patients with comorbidities
			adherence rates and	and those taking several
			determined factors	drugs. One of the primary
			that predicted poor	factors linked to non-
		1	İ	

			adherence in patients	adherence was the patients'
			who visited primary	level of disease awareness.
			health clinics in	
			Riyadh, Saudi	
			Arabia.	
18	[29]	Cross-sectional	The study evaluated	The study revealed poor
			levels of medication	adherence to
			adherence in	antihypertensive
			individuals with	medications, significantly
			hypertension and	associated with factors such
			investigated related	as age, income, rural
			variables.	residence, and marital status
19	[30]	Cross-sectional	The study	Results showed sufficient
			investigated patients'	knowledge levels but low
			knowledge about	medication adherence, with
			hypertension and	a substantial positive
			their adherence to	relationship between
			medication.	adherence and knowledge
20	[31]	Prospective	Quality of life,	Compared to those without
		Adherence: KAP &	lifestyle change,	comorbidities (41.1%), the
		QOL	adherence	majority of hypertension
			evaluation, patient	patients (58.8%) have
			counseling, and	comorbidities, and blood
			patient information	pressure increases by
			pamphlets.	29.85% in people between
				the ages of 51 and 60.
				As a result, pharmacist
				counselling can enhance
				patient understanding,
				compliance, and quality of
				life.

[32] confidence The Interventions Patients' 21 quasifor in experiment MUSE counselling, controlling their self-efficacy hypertension increased after for pamphlets, and receiving counselling and MMAS-8 adherence adherence evaluation pamphlets. 22 [33] Retro-prospective Pharmacist-led Morisky Medication counseling over a cohort study Adherence Scale (MMAS-8) two-month period. scores increased from 4.58 to 6.28 (p = 0.000), indicating a significant improvement in medication adherence. Both the diastolic and systolic blood pressures dropped from 91.23±12.82 mmHg to 87.14 ± 9.94 mmHg (p = 0.014) and 160.49 ± 23.15 mmHg to 149.04 ± 21.02 mmHg 0.001). (p 23 Randomized Individualized [34] Beyond what could be controlled trial. psychosocial accomplished with routine counseling doctor visits alone, the study and further patient found no discernible education increase in blood pressure control or compliance.

Discussion



Research articles collected from some Research articles collected from different countries. In Ten of the publications utilize the quasi-experiment approach, one uses the prospective method, three are chosen from a cross-sectional study, and three employed a randomized controlled trial. One group of hypertension individuals had no comorbidities, while the other group had comorbidities, according to the literature study. Comorbidities include heart failure, diabetes mellitus, and chronic renal failure.

Diabetes mellitus, chronic renal disease, and chronic heart disease are examples of comorbidities. In addition to providing the patient with the right medications and counseling, the intervention pharmacist has increased the patient's understanding. research papers gathered from a few nations, including America, Arabia, Indonesia, and Iran.

Twenty publications are chosen, including four from cross-sectional studies, five from randomized controlled trials, ten using the quasi-experiment method, and one using the prospective method. One group of hypertension individuals had no comorbidities, while the other group had comorbidities, according to the literature study.

Comorbidity, such as heart failure, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidemia, and chronic renal failure. Diabetes mellitus, chronic renal disease, dyslipidemia, and chronic heart disease are examples of comorbidities. In addition to providing the patient with the right medications and counseling, the intervention pharmacist has increased the patient's understanding. Twenty publications are chosen, including four from cross-sectional studies, five from randomized controlled trials, ten using the quasi-experiment method, and one using the prospective method.. One group of hypertension individuals had no comorbidities, while the other group had comorbidities, according to the literature study. Comorbidities include heart failure, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidemia, and chronic renal failure.

Diabetes mellitus, chronic renal disease, dyslipidemia, and chronic heart disease are examples of comorbidities. In addition to providing the patient with the right medications and counseling, the intervention pharmacist has increased the patient's understanding.

The results of this systematic analysis demonstrate how counseling interventions significantly improve hypertension patients' blood pressure control and medication adherence. Counseling and education-based therapies consistently showed improvements in adherence and reductions in blood pressure levels across a range of study designs, including cross-sectional studies, quasi-experimental studies, and randomized controlled trials.



Interventions with Multiple Aspects Are Successful Medication adherence and the management of hypertension were found to significantly improve in studies that included pharmacist-led counseling, interdisciplinary interventions, and mobile health programs [9, 12, 17, 21]. These therapies' individualized approach, frequent follow-ups, and integration of several healthcare providers are all factors in their success.

Health Literacy and Patient Knowledge Are Important Observational and cross-sectional research [11, 14, 16, 26] found a strong relationship between patients' adherence to therapy for hypertension and their degree of knowledge. Better adherence was demonstrated by patients who were more knowledgeable about their illness and treatment plan, highlighting the necessity of focused educational initiatives.

Support from the community and family enhances results. Involving patients' social networks in their treatment process greatly increased adherence and lifestyle changes, according to studies on social support, family-supportive care, and community-based care (22, 23).

Audio-visual and digital interventions Show Promise: Although differences in efficacy were noted depending on frequency and delivery type, mobile health programs (21) and audio-visual treatments (18) showed promise in improving medication adherence.

Even with these encouraging results, some obstacles still exist. Poor medication adherence was linked to a number of characteristics, including age, socioeconomic status, comorbidities, and living in a rural area, according to several studies (24, 25). This emphasizes the necessity of specialized interventions that tackle socioeconomic and demographic obstacles to efficient management of hypertension.

Conclusion

It seems that the best way to increase medication adherence in hypertension patients is to take a diversified strategy.

Combining patient education, behavioral counseling, pharmacist-led interventions, and technological aids results in better adherence and improved health outcomes. Future research should focus on integrating these strategies into healthcare systems to maximize their impact and sustainability. Additionally, addressing individual patient barriers, including socioeconomic and psychological factors, is essential to developing personalized adherence programs that cater to diverse patient needs. Ultimately, a

collaborative and patient-centered approach remains the key to achieving optimal hypertension management and long-term adherence to antihypertensive medications.

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