

Osteoarthritis care not lining up with recommendations

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(HealthDay)—The quality of osteoarthritis care is inadequate for all treatment domains, according to a meta-analysis published online June 17 in the *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*.

Martin Basedow, M.P.H., and Adrian Esterman, Ph.D., from the University of South Australia in Adelaide, conducted a systematic review to examine the quality of osteoarthritis care using quality indicators (QIs). Fourteen high-quality studies were included in the review, which incorporated one to 21 QIs. Four studies only examined the quality of osteoarthritis care, while 10 studies assessed <u>health care</u> <u>quality</u> for various conditions, including osteoarthritis.

The researchers found that for all treatment domains the quality of



osteoarthritis care as assessed by meta-analysis of QI pass rates was suboptimal, with pass rates of 48.5 percent for pain and functional status assessment, 36.1 percent for non-drug treatment, 37.5 percent for drug treatment, and 78.9 percent for surgical referral.

"Despite efforts made at improving care for patients with osteoarthritis, the wide divergence between evidence and consensus-based recommended care and practice has been reaffirmed," the authors write.

More information: Abstract

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