

High rate of clopidogrel non-adherence after DES placement

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(HealthDay)—For patients undergoing drug-eluting stent placement,

there is a high rate of clopidogrel nonadherence, according to a study published in the Feb. 15 issue of *The American Journal of Cardiology*.

Houman Khalili, M.D., from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, and colleagues retrospectively collected one-year refill data from a pharmacy system to examine clopidogrel adherence among [patients](#) who underwent drug-eluting stent placement. The cohort comprised 369 patients (34 percent female; 39 percent Hispanic, 26 percent white, and 26 percent African-American).

The researchers found that the primary outcome of time to failure to obtain a clopidogrel refill was 153 days. Cumulative failure to obtain at least one refill was 23, 52, and 68 percent, respectively, at the first refill, six months, and one year. Twenty-one percent of patients had 100 percent coverage, while 34 percent had a proportion of days covered (PDC) of less than 80 percent. No independent predictors of nonadherence (PDC

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