

Diabetes-related distress ups risk for rx nonadherence

October 31 2016



(HealthDay)—Diabetes-related distress and depression symptom

severity are risk factors for medication nonadherence in type 2 diabetes, according to a study published online Oct. 17 in *Diabetes Care*.

Jeffrey S. Gonzalez, Ph.D., from Yeshiva University in New York City, and colleagues examined the correlation between emotional distress and adherence to medication over time among ethnically and socioeconomically diverse adults treated for type 2 diabetes. Participants completed validated self-reports (SRs) for diabetes distress and depression. Over three months, [medication adherence](#) was electronically monitored (EM) among 104 participants and validated SRs for adherence were also obtained.

The researchers found that there was a bivariate association for higher levels of SR and interview-based depressive symptom severity and diabetes-related distress with EM and SR nonadherence. Baseline diabetes distress was a significant independent predictor of EM and SR adherence at follow-up; SR depression also independently predicted EM and SR adherence and attenuated the effects of diabetes distress so they were no longer significant. This effect was driven by somatic, not cognitive-affective, symptoms of depression.

"Findings support diabetes-related distress and depression symptom severity as [risk factors](#) for type 2 diabetes medication nonadherence," the authors write. "Somatic symptoms captured by depression measures, but not cognitive-affective symptoms, independently predict nonadherence and should be further investigated as a potential link between [emotional distress](#) and nonadherence."

More information: [Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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Citation: Diabetes-related distress ups risk for rx nonadherence (2016, October 31) retrieved 25 April 2024 from

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