

Medication adherence may affect risk of hospitalization and early death

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A recent analysis of published studies examined the clinical consequences of medication adherence. The *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* analysis found that medication adherence is linked with lower risks of needing to be hospitalised and of dying early.

Individuals aged 50 years and older who were considered to have good <u>medication adherence</u> had a 17% <u>lower risk</u> of having a hospitalisation due to any cause compared with those considered non-adherent. Good adherence was also associated with a 21% reduction in long-term mortality risk compared with medication non-adherence.

"This review has provided a comprehensive and systematic assessment of the evidence on the association between <u>medication</u> non-adherence and adverse health outcomes in older populations. It has highlighted the critical need for further research in this area," the authors wrote.

More information: Caroline A. Walsh et al, The association between medication non-adherence and adverse health outcomes in ageing populations: a systematic review and meta-analysis, *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* (2019). DOI: 10.1111/bcp.14075

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