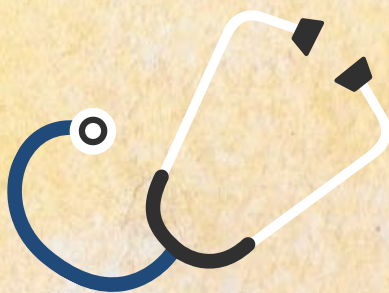


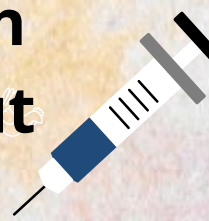
IAFP

GERIATRIC MIG PICO DE POEM

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Polypharmacy among older adults with dementia compared with those without dementia in the United States



PRESENTING QUESTION

What is the prevalence of polypharmacy among older persons with dementia (PWD) compared to older persons without dementia (PWOD) attending outpatient visits in the United States.



INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

Persons with dementia aged ≥ 65 years attending outpatient visits.

COMPARATOR

Persons without dementia aged ≥ 65 years attending outpatient visits.



OUTCOMES

- After adjustment, PWD had significantly higher odds of being prescribed ≥ 5 medications (AOR 3.0; 95% CI: 2.1-4.3) or ≥ 10 medications (AOR 2.8; 95% CI: 2.0-4.2) compared with PWOD
- The median number of medications in PWD was eight compared with three in PWOD ($p < 0.001$).



TIMEFRAME

Cross-sectional analysis of outpatient visits recorded in the nationally representative National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS), 2014-2016 .

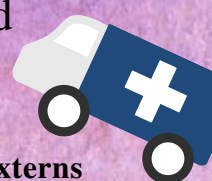
SYNOPSIS

- PWD is defined as individuals with a diagnosis of dementia on the NAMCS encounter form and those receiving an anti-dementia medication
- Compared visits with PwD and PWOD in sociodemographic, practice/physician factors, comorbidities, and prescribing outcomes.
- The unweighted sample involved 918 visits for PWD and 26,543 visits for PWOD, representing 29.0 and 780 million outpatient visits.
- Regression analyses examined the effect of dementia diagnosis on contributions by clinically relevant medication categories to polypharmacy (defined as being prescribed ≥ 5 prescription and nonprescription medications)
- After adjustment, PWD had significantly higher odds of being prescribed ≥ 5 medications (AOR 3.0; 95% CI: 2.1-4.3) or ≥ 10 medications (AOR 2.8; 95% CI: 2.0-4.2) compared with PWOD.



KEY TAKEAWAY

- Persons with dementia had significantly higher odds of being prescribed ≥ 5 or ≥ 10 medications than PWOD.
- The most significant sources of medications among PWD were cardiovascular and central nervous system medications.
- PWD had higher odds of receiving at least one highly sedating or anticholinergic medication (AOR 2.5; 95% CI: 1.6-3.9).
- Addressing polypharmacy in PWD will require cross-cutting and multidisciplinary approaches.



Designed by Faith Nwokorie and Amanda Kohler-Gopen 2021-2022 IAFP Public Health Externs

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