**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Diabetes*

**Manuscript NO:** 64353

**Manuscript Type:** ORIGINAL ARTICLE

***Basic Study***

**Medication adherence and quality of life among type-2 diabetes mellitus patients in India**

Mishra R *et al.* Type-2 diabetes mellitus

Rakhi Mishra, Suresh K Sharma, Rajni Verma, Priyanka Kangra, Preeti Dahiya, Preeti Kumari, Priya Sahu, Priyanka Bhakar, Reena Kumawat, Ravinder Kaur, Ravinder Kaur, Ravi Kant

**Rakhi Mishra, Suresh K Sharma, Rajni Verma, Priyanka Kangra, Preeti Dahiya, Preeti Kumari, Priya Sahu, Priyanka Bhakar, Reena Kumawat, Ravinder Kaur, Ravinder Kaur,** College of Nursing, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Uttarakhand 249203, Rishikesh, India

**Ravi Kant,** Department of Medicine, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Uttarakhand 249203, Rishikesh, India

**Author contributions:** Mishra R, Sharma SK, Kant R designed and coordinated the study; Verma R, Kangra P, Dahiya P, Kumari P, Sahu P, Bhakar P, Kumawat R, Kaur R, Kaur R acquired and analyzed data; Mishra R, Verma R, Kangra P, Dahiya P, Kumari P, Sahu P, Bhakar P, Kumawat R, Kaur R, Kaur R interpreted the data; Mishra R, Sharma SK, Kant Rwrote the manuscript; All authors approved the final version of the article.

**Corresponding author: Rakhi Mishra, MSc, Assistant Professor,** College of Nursing, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Virbhadra Road Shivaji Nagar, Near Barrage, Uttarakhand 249203, Rishikesh, India. mishrarakhi92@gmail.com

**Received:** February 16, 2021

**Revised:** April 7, 2021

**Accepted:** July 16, 2021

**Published online:**

**Abstract**

BACKGROUND

Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a progressively increasing metabolic disorder and a significant public health burden that demands immediate global attention. However, there is a paucity of data about adherence to antidiabetic drugs among patients with type-2 (T2)DM in Uttarakhand, India. Outpatient research reported that more than 50% of patients do not adhere to the correct administration and appropriate medicine dosage. It has been reported that patients with chronic diseases who adhere to treatment may experience improvement in quality of life (QoL) and vice versa.

AIM

To assess the adherence to antidiabetic medication and QoL among patients with T2DM.

METHODS

This cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted at a tertiary care hospital in Uttarakhand, India. The Medication Adherence Rating Scale and World Health Organization QoL-BREF scale were used to assess medication adherence and QoL.

RESULTS

Two hundred seventy-seven patients suffering from T2DM participated in the study. Their mean age was 50.80 (± 10.6) years, 155 (56%) had a poor adherence level and 122 (44%) had a good adherence level to antidiabetic medications. After adjusting for sociodemographic factors, multiple linear regression analysis found patients who were adherent to antidiabetic medications had significantly higher mean overall perception of QoL and overall perception of health, with beta scores of 0.36 and 0.34, respectively (both *P* = 0.000) points compared with nonadherent patients.

CONCLUSION

There was an association between medication adherence and QoL in patients with T2DM. Hence, there is a need to plan awareness and counseling programs followed by regular follow-up to motivate patient adherence to recommended treatment and lifestyle regimens.

**Key Words:** Medication adherence; Quality of life; Diabetes mellitus; Tertiary care hospital; India

Mishra R, Sharma SK, Verma R, Kangra P, Dahiya P, Kumari P, Sahu P, Bhakar P, Kumawat R, Kaur R, Kaur R, Kant R. Medication adherence and quality of life among type-2 diabetes mellitus patients in India. *World J Diabetes* 2021; In press

**Core Tip:** Many research articles have been published on the epidemiology, complications, therapies, comparisons of treatments, and healthcare strategies for diabetes mellitus (DM). The literature shows that patient adherence to antidiabetic medications and quality of life (QoL) are interrelated. Patients with diabetes who adhere to their treatment can experience an improvement in QoL and vice versa. This study focused on (1) adherence to antidiabetic medication and QoL among T2DM patients; (2) finding the relationship between adherence to antidiabetic medication and QoL, and (3) determining the association between adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL and selected demographic variables.

**INTRODUCTION**

Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a progressively increasing metabolic disorder that has become a significant public health burden. The World Health Organization has identified DM as an important noncommunicable diseases that demands immediate global attention[1]. The International Diabetes Federation has reported that 463 million adults between 20-79 years of age are living with diabetes and that the total will rise to 700 million by 2045[2]. This chronic disorder is rated among the top ten causes of death (4.2 million) globally and has attained pandemic proportions worldwide[2].In addition to increased mortality, diabetes can lead to poor physical and mental health. Moreover, problems like increased blood glucose level and dietary and exercise limitations demand repeated insulin injections. However, musculoskeletal and vascular complication negatively affect the quality of life (QoL) of patients with DM[3]. To prevent the development of fatal complications associated with DM, glycemic control is required. To achieve that goal, it is necessary to encourage patients to adhere to therapeutic regimens, change their life style, and follow the recommendations of their clinicians[4].Studies have shown that patient adherence to chronic-disease treatment is low[5]. Research involving outpatients reported that more than 50% do not adhere to the correct medicine administration and dosage[6]. The diabetes literature shows that patient QoL and medication adherence are interrelated. It has been reported that patients with chronic diseases who adhere to their treatment may experience improvement in QoL and vice versa[7]. However, there is a paucity of data about adherence to antidiabetic drugs among patients with T2DM, especially in Uttarakhand. Therefore, this study was conducted to assess the adherence to antidiabetic medication and QoL by patients with T2DM.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

***Participants and settings***

This cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted at a tertiary care hospital in Uttarakhand, India to assess adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL by patients with T2DM. A sample size of 350 was calculated considering that an estimated 31.2% of the population would be nonadherent to antidiabetic medications, a margin of error of 5% with a 95% confidence interval (CI), a 10% study dropout rate, and entering potential confounders as covariates in the regression model[8,9]. Patients between 21 and 75 years of age who were diagnosed with T2DM and visited the outpatient department between February 10, 2020 and March 19, 2020 were eligible for inclusion. Those who were under treatment for T2DM for less than 6 mo or had cognitive and neurological impairment were excluded.

***Ethical approval***

Ethical permission was obtained from institution ethics committee, vide letter no. 368/IEC/STS/2019. Participants were informed about the purpose of research and ensured about anonymity and confidentiality of the information. A written informed voluntary participation consent was obtained from each study participant.

***Instruments***

Participant data were collected with a structured interview questionnaire that included sociodemographic characteristics (section I), the Medication Adherence Rating Scale (MARS, section II), and the WHOQoL-BREF scale (section III). Questionnaires were administered in the Hindi Language, which is the national language of India. MARS is a 10-item questionnaire with validated validity, and developed originally in English[10]. To avoid acquiescence bias, the items in the scale have a dichotomous response (yes/no). The minimum score was 0 and the maximum score was 10. The summed total score was categorized as non- or poor adherence (0-5) or adherence or good adherence (6-10). The WHOQoL-BREF is a generic instrument developed to measure QoL of patients suffering from T2DM by the WHO criteria and is a short version of the 100 item WHOQoL-100[11]. The WHOQoL-BREF consists of 26 items divided into four QoL domains, Physical health (seven items), psychological health (six items), social relationships (three items), and environmental health (eight items). The two remaining questions assessed an individual’s overall perception of QoL and overall perception of health. All the questions in the instrument are scaled in a positive direction from 1 to 5, with a high score indicating good QoL, except for items three, four, and 26. The domain score was calculated from the mean score of all items within each domain. To make the domain scores comparable to WHOQoL-100 scores, the calculated mean scores were multiplied by 4[11]. Permission was obtained to use the MARS and WHOQoL-BREF tools, and a license agreement was signed by the appropriate authority. The validity and reliability of the tools were pre-established using Cronbach’s alpha, *r* = 0.70 for the WHOQoL-BREF and *r* = 0.75 for MARS[10,12]. A standardized pilot-tested collection form was used to collect data from participants. The average time taken to complete one interview was around 20 min.

***Statistical analysis***

Data were coded and then entered onto Excel worksheets. The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS 21.0) was used for statistical analysis. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis. Sociodemographic characteristics were reported as frequencies *(n*) and percentages (%). Adherence to antidiabetic medication- and health-related QoL was reported as means and standard deviation (SD). Multiple linear regression analysis was performed to assess the effect of adherence to antidiabetic medication within each QoL domain after adjusting the estimates for some sociodemographic variables. A *P-*value of < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

**RESULTS**

A total of 277 patients with T2DM were recruited during the study period. The mean ± SD age was 50.80 ± 10.6 years. More than half of the patients were men (57%), residing in urban area (63.9%) with a distance of more than 10 km from hospital (66.1%), having joint family (65.3%), and suffering from T2DM for 1-5 years (54.2%). Nearly one-third (32.9%) had an educational status up to the primary level. The majority had associated comorbidities, including thyroid (54.5%) and hypertension (41.5%). The clinical histories revealed that 47.3% were taking both insulin and oral hypoglycemic agents (OHAs) for treatment along with lifestyle modifications (Tables 1 and 2)**.**

Of the 277 patients included in this study, 155 (56%) had poor adherence scores of 0-5 and 122 (44%) had good adherence scores of 6-10) for antidiabetic medications. The mean overall perception of QoL and health scores were 68.16 ± 14.69 and 63.97 ± 16.51 respectively. Tables 1 and 2 shows the mean scores of the four domains stratified by sociodemographic and clinical characteristics and the two individual questions assessing the overall perception of QoL and health. Higher mean QoL score were reported by those with postgraduate and above education, incomes > 30001 INR, residing < 5 km from the hospital, suffering with T2DM for more than 15 years, and on glimepiride.

Multiple regression analysis found that medication adherence was an independent predictor of QoL (*P* < 0.05) in the patients in this study after adjusting for various sociodemographic characteristics including age, marital status, educational qualification, type of family, and monthly income. Patients who were adherent to antidiabetic medications had significantly higher mean overall perception of QoL and health scores, (*P* = 0.000) compared with nonadherent patients. Their beta scores of 0.36 and 0.34 points, respectively (Table 3).

**DISCUSSION**

DM is a chronic disease that requires patients to be on long-term drug therapy. Poor treatment adherence and lifestyle habits are significant barriers in the treatment of DM. The primary objective of diabetes management is to improve patient health-related QoL which is now a growing area of interest and has emerged as a significant chronic-disease outcome. In developed nations, approximately 50% of diabetes patients do not adhere to the recommended therapies[13]. The literature has shown that medication adherence is associated with improved disease control[6]. This study was conducted to assess adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL in patients with T2DM attending the outpatient department of a tertiary care hospital. Medication adherence is a key factor because it is directly related to the disease outcome. However, nonadherence may alter all QoL dimensions. This study found that 155 of the participants (56%) were nonadherent and 122 (44%) were adherent to antidiabetic medications. Worldwide studies using various research assessment instruments and systematic reviews have addressed issues of poor medication adherence by diabetes patients[14]. Our findings are similar to those of Ahmad *et al*[15], who reported that 53% of their respondents were nonadherent to medications. However, much lower rates of nonadherence have been seen in studies conducted by Bagonza *et al*[16], Pascal *et al*[17], and Elsous *et al*[18] who reported rates between 16.7%% and 42%. The difference in adherence might be explained by variations in healthcare services, socioeconomic status, and the metrics used for assessment of adherence across the study settings. However, a study conducted in Oman reported overall good patient adherence to the medication regimen (80%), which is higher than our finding[19]. A study in 129 patients by Fadare *et al*[20] reported 40.6% good, 32.8% medium, and 26.6% poor adherence to medication regimens.

This study found a statistically significant relation (*P* < 0.05) between age and monthly income and good adherence to antidiabetic medications. Similarly, Gelaw *et al*[21] reported that increased age was significantly associated (*P* < 0.05) with good adherence to treatment. It is expected that patients with high education levels would have better adherence to medication regimen, and that was confirmed by Ahmed *et al*[22], who found that patients with graduate-level educations were highly adherent. Contrary to our findings, Fadare *et al*[20] did not find significant differences in adherence (*P* < 0.05) between levels of education and adherence. Our findings are similar to those of Gelaw *et al*[21] who reported that married patients had a higher rate of therapeutic adherence (48.6%) than single, widowed, or divorced patients, but Khan *et al*[23] did find a significant impact of marital status on patient adherence.

Gelaw *et al*[21] reported that 82.07% of patients with a duration of diabetes ≤ 5 years were more compliant to medication than those with diabetes for > 5 years, and the difference was statistically significant. Similar to our finding that 155 (56%) of patients were nonadherent to antidiabetic medications, Bezie *et al*[24] reported that patients who had been on diabetic treatment for < 5 years were poorly adherent to treatment. It is likely that patients who have been on treatment for a short duration are less aware of the disease condition and are thereby nonadherent to the antidiabetic medications. However, patients with a longer disease duration are likely to have had more contacts with their healthcare providers, may have a better understanding of their regimen, are more likely to be self-motivated to take prescribed medications. However, the association of treatment adherence and the number of years with diabetes was not statistically significant.

Participants who do not have diabetes-related complications had a high level of adherence. In contrast, poor medication adherence may result in comorbidities. Participants with no diabetes-related complications requires fewer medications. Thus, their adherence to antidiabetic medication might increase, and the risk of developing comorbidities might decrease[25]. This study did not find a significant association between comorbidities and the level of adherence. Considering the multifactorial nature of poor medication adherence, it is understood that only a sustained, coordinated effort will ensure optimal medication adherence. This study has clearly shown that diabetes impaired the physical and psychological QoL domain. QoL measurements should thus become routine in the clinical management of diabetic patients. Another factor which was found to be positively associated with adherence was knowledge of DM and its medications. Keeping in mind the high prevalence of both diabetes and nonadherence to the treatment regimen, additional nurses should be trained to run special diabetic clinics at rates that patients can easily afford to pay. Creating awareness and educating the patients regarding the disease and its management will definitely help to improve the adherence level and QoL.

**CONCLUSION**

This study found that more than 50% of the participants were nonadherent to antidiabetic medications and that QoL scores were associated with the level of patient adherence. There is a need to plan and implement awareness and counseling programs and regular follow-up to motivate patients to improve adherence to recommended treatment and lifestyle regimens.

***Scope for future work***

The study was limited by a small patient sample, but the findings can be expanded by machine-learning analysis and statistical methods designed to extract information from large data samples. Specifically, random forest algorithms and artificial neural networks can be used to determine which predictors are more important for the prediction of medication adherence or quality of life (QoL).

**ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS**

***Research background***

Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a progressive metabolic disorder that has become a significant public health burden that demands immediate global attention. However, there is a paucity of data on adherence to antidiabetic drugs by patients with type-two (T2)DM in Uttarakhand, India. Current research in outpatients has shown that more than 50% of patients do not adhere to the correct administration and appropriate dosage of antidiabetic medications. It has been reported that patients with chronic diseases who adhere to treatment may experience improvement in quality of life (QoL) and vice versa.

***Research motivation***

DM is a progressively increasing metabolic disorder that has become a significant public health burden and demands immediate global attention. The paucity of data on adherence to antidiabetic drugs by patients with T2DM in Uttarakhand, India prompted this study.

***Research objectives***

The study was conducted to assess the adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL in patients with T2DM.

***Research methods***

This cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted at a tertiary care hospital in Uttarakhand, India. The Medication Adherence Rating Scale and World Health Organization QoL-BREF scale were used to assess medication adherence and QoL.

***Research results***

A group of 277 outpatients with T2DM participated in the study. Their mean age was 50.80 ± 10.6 years, 155 (56%) had poor, and 122 (44%) had good antidiabetic medication adherence. After adjusting for sociodemographic variables, multiple linear regression analysis found that patients who were adherent to antidiabetic medications had significantly a higher overall mean perception of QoL and health, with beta scores of 0.36 and 0.34 points, respectively (both *P* = 0.000) compared with nonadherent patients.

***Research conclusions***

Adherence to medications by patients with T2DM was correlated with QoL. Hence, there is a need to plan and implement awareness and counseling programs followed by regular follow-up to motivate patient adherence to recommended treatment and lifestyle regimens.

***Research perspectives***

Many research articles have been published of the epidemiology, complications, therapies, comparisons of treatments, and healthcare strategies for DM. The literature shows that patient adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL are interrelated. Patients with diabetes who adhere to their treatment can experience an improvement in QoL and vice versa. This study focused on (1) adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL in T2DM, (2) finding the relationship between adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL, and (3) determining the association between adherence to antidiabetic medications and QoL and selected demographic variable.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The authors thanks Kavitha Ramesh for providing language editing support.

**REFERENCES**

1 **WHO**. Global report on Diabetes. 2016 [cited 1 November 2018]. In: World Health Organization. Available from: http//www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/204871/st1/9789241565257\_eng.pdf

2 **International Diabetes Federation**. Diabetes facts & figures. 2020 [cited 12 February 2020]. In: International Diabetes Federation. Available from: https://www.idf.org/aboutdiabetes/what-is-diabetes/facts-figures.html

3 **Sozen T**, Basaran NÇ, Tınazlı M, Ozışık L. Musculoskeletal problems in diabetes mellitus. *Eur J Rheumatol* 2018; **5**: 258-265 [PMID: 30388074 DOI: 10.5152/eurjrheum.2018.18044]

4 **García-Pérez LE**, Alvarez M, Dilla T, Gil-Guillén V, Orozco-Beltrán D. Adherence to therapies in patients with type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes Ther* 2013; **4**: 175-194 [PMID: 23990497 DOI: 10.1007/s13300-013-0034-y]

5 **Tavares NU**, Bertoldi AD, Mengue SS, Arrais PS, Luiza VL, Oliveira MA, Ramos LR, Farias MR, Pizzol TD. Factors associated with low adherence to medicine treatment for chronic diseases in Brazil. *Rev Saude Publica* 2016; **50**: 10s [PMID: 27982378 DOI: 10.1590/S1518-8787.2016050006150]

6 **Brown MT**, Bussell JK. Medication adherence: WHO cares? *Mayo Clin Proc* 2011; **86**: 304-314 [PMID: 21389250 DOI: 10.4065/mcp.2010.0575]

7 **Pratama IPY,** Andayani TM, Kristina SA. Knowledge, adherence and quality of life among type 2 diabetes mellitus patients. *Int Res J Pharm* 2019; **10**: 52-55 [DOI:10.7897/2230-8407.1004123]

8 **Sharma SK,** Mudgal SK, Thakur K, Gaur R. How to calculate sample size for observational and experimental nursing research studies? *Natl J Physiol Pharm Pharmacol* 2020; **10**: 1-8

9 **Kassahun A**, Gashe F, Mulisa E, Rike WA. Nonadherence and factors affecting adherence of diabetic patients to anti-diabetic medication in Assela General Hospital, Oromia Region, Ethiopia. *J Pharm Bioallied Sci* 2016; **8**: 124-129 [PMID: 27134464 DOI: 10.4103/0975-7406.171696]

10 **Thompson K**, Kulkarni J, Sergejew AA. Reliability and validity of a new Medication Adherence Rating Scale (MARS) for the psychoses. *Schizophr Res* 2000; **42**: 241-247 [PMID: 10785582 DOI: 10.1016/s0920-9964(99)00130-9]

11 Development of the World Health Organization WHOQOL-BREF quality of life assessment. The WHOQOL Group. *Psychol Med* 1998; **28**: 551-558 [PMID: 9626712 DOI: 10.1017/s0033291798006667]

12 **Ilic I**, Sipetic S, Grujicic J, Macuzic IZ, Kocic S, Ilic M. Psychometric Properties of the World Health Organization's Quality of Life (WHOQOL-BREF) Questionnaire in Medical Students. *Medicina (Kaunas)* 2019; **55**: 772 [PMID: 31817180 DOI: 10.3390/medicina55120772]

13 **Demoz GT**, Wahdey S, Bahrey D, Kahsay H, Woldu G, Niriayo YL, Collier A. Predictors of poor adherence to antidiabetic therapy in patients with type 2 diabetes: a cross-sectional study insight from Ethiopia. *Diabetol Metab Syndr* 2020; **12**: 62 [PMID: 32695232 DOI: 10.1186/s13098-020-00567-7]

14 **Sapkota S**, Brien JA, Greenfield J, Aslani P. A systematic review of interventions addressing adherence to anti-diabetic medications in patients with type 2 diabetes--impact on adherence. *PLoS One* 2015; **10**: e0118296 [PMID: 25710465 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0118296]

15 **Ahmad NS**, Ramli A, Islahudin F, Paraidathathu T. Medication adherence in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus treated at primary health clinics in Malaysia. *Patient Prefer Adherence* 2013; **7**: 525-530 [PMID: 23814461 DOI: 10.2147/PPA.S44698]

16 **Bagonza J**, Rutebemberwa E, Bazeyo W. Adherence to anti diabetic medication among patients with diabetes in eastern Uganda; a cross sectional study. *BMC Health Serv Res* 2015; **15**: 168 [PMID: 25898973 DOI: 10.1186/s12913-015-0820-5]

17 **Pascal IG**, Ofoedu JN, Uchenna NP, Nkwa AA, Uchamma GU. Blood Glucose Control and Medication Adherence Among Adult Type 2 Diabetic Nigerians Attending A Primary Care Clinic in Under-resourced Environment of Eastern Nigeria. *N Am J Med Sci* 2012; **4**: 310-315 [PMID: 22866268 DOI: 10.4103/1947-2714.98590]

18 **Elsous A**, Radwan M, Al-Sharif H, Abu Mustafa A. Medications Adherence and Associated Factors among Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in the Gaza Strip, Palestine. *Front Endocrinol (Lausanne)* 2017; **8**: 100 [PMID: 28649231 DOI: 10.3389/fendo.2017.00100]

19 **Jimmy B**, Jose J, Al-Hinai ZA, Wadair IK, Al-Amri GH. Adherence to Medications among Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Patients in Three Districts of Al Dakhliyah Governorate, Oman: A cross-sectional pilot study. *Sultan Qaboos Univ Med J* 2014; **14**: e231-e235 [PMID: 24790747]

20 **Fadare J**, Olamoyegun M, Gbadegesin BA. Medication adherence and direct treatment cost among diabetes patients attending a tertiary healthcare facility in Ogbomosho, Nigeria. *Malawi Med J* 2015; **27**: 65-70 [PMID: 26405515 DOI: 10.4314/mmj.v27i2.7]

21 **Gelaw BK,** Mohammed A, Tegegne GT. Nonadherence and contributing factors among ambulatory patients with antidiabetic medications in Adama Referral Hospital. *J Diabetes Res*. 2014; **2014**: 1-9 [DOI:10.1155/2014/617041]

22 **Ahmed NO**, Abugalambo S, Almethen GH. Adherence to oral hypoglycemic medication among patients with diabetes in Saudi Arabia. *Int J Health Sci (Qassim)* 2017; **11**: 45-49 [PMID: 28936151]

23 **Khan AR**, Al-Abdul Lateef ZN, Al Aithan MA, Bu-Khamseen MA, Al Ibrahim I, Khan SA. Factors contributing to non-compliance among diabetics attending primary health centers in the Al Hasa district of Saudi Arabia. *J Family Community Med* 2012; **19**: 26-32 [PMID: 22518355 DOI: 10.4103/2230-8229.94008]

24 **Bezie Y**, Molina M, Hernandez N, Batista R, Niang S, Huet D. Therapeutic compliance: a prospective analysis of various factors involved in the adherence rate in type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes Metab* 2006; **32**: 611-616 [PMID: 17296515 DOI: 10.1016/S1262-3636(07)70316-6]

25 **Nonogaki A**, Heang H, Yi S, van Pelt M, Yamashina H, Taniguchi C, Nishida T, Sakakibara H. Factors associated with medication adherence among people with diabetes mellitus in poor urban areas of Cambodia: A cross-sectional study. *PLoS One* 2019; **14**: e0225000 [PMID: 31743349 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0225000]

**Footnotes**

**Institutional review board statement:** The study was reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board at AIIMS, Rishikesh, Uttarakhand, India

**Conflict-of-interest statement:** The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

**Data sharing statement:** No additional data are available

**Open-Access:** This article is an open-access article that was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial. See: http://creativecommons.org/Licenses/by-nc/4.0/

**Manuscript source:** Invited manuscript

**Peer-review started:** February 16, 2021

**First decision:** March 30, 2021

**Article in press:**

**Specialty type:** Nursing

**Country/Territory of origin:** India

**Peer-review report’s scientific quality classification**

Grade A (Excellent): 0

Grade B (Very good): 0

Grade C (Good): C

Grade D (Fair): 0

Grade E (Poor): 0

**P-Reviewer:** Lee KS **S-Editor:** Liu M **L-Editor:** Filipodia **P-Editor:**

**Table 1 Quality of life scores, sociodemographic characteristics, and medication adherence of the study participants**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Demographic variables** | ***n* (%)** | **QoL domains** | **Overall Perception on QoL** | **Overall Perception of Health** |
| **Physical domain** | **Psychological domain** | **Social domain** | **Environmental domain** |
| Age, yr |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-46 | 77 (27.8) | 59.67 ± 15.88 | 53.12 ± 17.76 | 69.97 ± 12.07 | 55.14 ± 11.68 | 67.79 ± 15.61 | 64.45 ± 16.74 |
| 47-71 | 193 (69.7) | 56.29 ± 15.03 | 52.64 ± 14.35 | 69.98 ± 14.66 | 57.99 ± 11.95 | 68.50 ± 14.23 | 63.73 ± 16.28 |
| < 71 | 07 (2.50) | 41.86 ± 10.73 | 44.71 ± 18.98 | 62.57 ± 21.75 | 56.28 ± 13.35 | 62.86 ± 17.99 | 54.29 ± 19.02 |
| Gender |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 158 (57) | 57.30 ± 14.93 | 53.59 ± 14.48 | 70.33 ± 14.72 | 58.02 ± 11.32 | 69.24 ± 13.66 | 66.33 ± 15.82 |
| Female | 119 (43) | 56.29 ± 16.05 | 51.23 ± 16.68 | 69.07 ± 13.47 | 56.01 ± 12.65 | 66.72 ± 15.89 | 60.84 ± 16.95 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Married | 254 (91.7) | 57.09 ± 15.63 | 52.82 ± 15.39 | 70.36 ± 12.75 | 57.13 ± 11.95 | 68.35 ± 14.86 | 64.33 ± 16.64 |
| Single | 23 (8.30) | 54.48 ± 12.61 | 49.83 ± 16.48 | 63.52 ± 24.72 | 57.48 ± 11.95 | 66.09 ± 12.70 | 60.00 ± 14.77 |
| Educational qualification |
| Illiterate | 51 (18.4) | 54.18 ± 17.35 | 49.18 ± 16.08 | 67.72 ± 11.86 | 53.65 ± 11.05 | 64.31 ± 15.13 | 59.22 ± 16.95 |
| Primary school | 91 (32.9) | 55.91 ± 16.04 | 51.32 ± 15.83 | 67.91 ± 14.39 | 54.15 ± 12.10 | 67.03 ± 15.88 | 62.86 ± 18.27 |
| Secondary school | 71 (25.6) | 58.17 ± 15.86 | 54.83 ± 14.78 | 72.19 ± 14.39 | 58.98 ± 10.34 | 69.30 ± 13.87 | 65.92 ± 14.89 |
| Graduate school and above | 64 (23.1) | 58.94 ± 11.82 | 54.56 ± 14.90 | 71.45 ± 16.72 | 62.19 ± 12.08 | 71.56 ± 12.75 | 67.19 ± 14.42 |
| Type of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nuclear | 96 (34.7) | 60.42 ± 16.10 | 56.05 ± 15.51 | 71.03 ± 13.18 | 58.26 ± 11.21 | 68.54 ± 15.01 | 65.00 ± 16.42 |
| Joint | 181 (65.3) | 54.99 ± 14.72 | 50.73 ± 15.18 | 69.14 ± 14.69 | 56.57 ± 12.29 | 67.96 ± 14.56 | 63.43 ± 16.58 |
| Monthly income, INR |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| < 20,000 | 127 (45.8) | 54.20 ± 15.40 | 51.24 ± 15.48 | 67.58 ± 14.86 | 54.59 ± 12.14 | 66.61 ± 15.54 | 60.94 ± 16.88 |
| 20,000-30,000 | 91 (32.9) | 56.37 ± 15.68 | 52.77 ± 15.56 | 69.77 ± 14.57 | 57.77 ± 11.44 | 67.69 ± 13.91 | 63.74 ± 15.47 |
| > 30,001 | 59 (21.3) | 63.39 ± 13.14 | 55.13 ± 15.28 | 74.59 ± 10.69 | 61.71 ± 10.87 | 72.20 ± 13.40 | 70.85 ± 15.46 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 177 (63.9) | 59.80 ± 15.25 | 54.29 ± 15.79 | 71.48 ± 12.61 | 57.60 ± 12.09 | 69.04 ± 14.29 | 66.10 ± 15.63 |
| Rural | 100 (36.1) | 51.68 ± 14.32 | 49.54 ± 14.49 | 66.80 ± 16.26 | 56.36 ± 11.66 | 66.60 ± 15.32 | 60.20 ± 17.41 |
| Adherence level |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nonadherent | 155 (55.96) | 52.32 ± 14.59 | 48.94 ± 14.56 | 69.73 ± 13.91 | 56.17 ± 12.32 | 64.90 ± 15.35 | 60.65 ± 16.50 |
| Adherent | 122 (44.04) | 62.65 ± 14.48 | 57.19 ± 15.44 | 69.87 ± 14.59 | 58.40 ± 11.35 | 72.30 ± 12.71 | 68.20 ± 15.59 |

Data are *n* (%) or mean ± SD. INR: Indian rupee; QoL: Quality of life.

**Table 2 Quality of life scores and clinical characteristics of the study participants**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Clinical characteristics** | ***n* (%)****277** | **Physical domain** | **Psychological domain** | **Social domain** | **Environmental domain** | **Overall perception of QoL** | **Overall perception of health** |
| Duration of T2DM, yr |
| 1-5 | 150 (54.2) | 57.19 ± 14.61 | 52.77 ± 15.54 | 70.98 ± 12.06 | 57.03 ± 12.39 | 68.67 ± 14.91 | 64.13 ± 15.77 |
| 6-10 | 90 (32.5) | 54.98 ± 14.91 | 51.07 ± 14.11 | 67.74 ± 17.02 | 57.12 ± 12.21 | 66.67 ± 14.06 | 63.78 ± 16.93 |
| 11-15 | 31 (11.2) | 60.35 ± 19.86 | 56.06 ± 18.94 | 70.42 ± 14.96 | 57.16 ± 10.03 | 69.03 ± 15.35 | 63.23 ± 19.39 |
| > 15 | 06 (2.2) | 59.33 ± 15.86 | 52.17 ± 14.69 | 67.67 ± 12.13 | 60.67 ± 03.61 | 73.33 ± 16.33 | 66.67 ± 16.33 |
| Drug used |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Metformin | 80 (28.9) | 56.27 ± 14.55 | 51.00 ± 13.68 | 69.77 ± 14.09 | 56.46 ± 11.91 | 67.75 ± 13.31 | 64.25 ± 15.49 |
| Glimepiride | 66 (23.8) | 61.20 ± 15.54 | 56.64 ± 15.21 | 71.44 ± 12.32 | 56.38 ± 12.10 | 71.82 ± 14.45 | 66.36 ± 16.14 |
| Other OHA | 131 (47.3) | 55.05 ± 15.53 | 51.49 ± 16.37 | 68.98 ± 15.12 | 57.97 ± 11.90 | 66.56 ± 15.38 | 62.60 ± 17.26 |
| Chronic comorbid illness |
| Hypertension | 115 (41.5) | 56.31 ± 15.46 | 51.94 ± 15.54 | 67.27 ± 15.44 | 56.81 ± 10.94 | 65.91 ± 14.74 | 61.74 ± 17.28 |
| Thyroid | 151 (54.5) | 57.62 ± 15.48 | 53.54 ± 15.01 | 71.87 ± 13.11 | 57.39 ± 12.87 | 69.93 ± 14.21 | 65.70 ± 15.89 |
| CAD | 11 (4.00) | 52.36 ± 13.91 | 46.00 ± 20.00 | 67.64 ± 10.76 | 57.54 ± 08.85 | 67.27 ± 18.49 | 63.64 ± 15.01 |

CAD: Coronary artery disease; DM: Diabetes mellitus; OHA: Oral hypoglycemic agent, QoL: Quality of life; T2DM: Type-2 diabetes mellitus. Data are n (%) or mean ± SD.**Table 3 Multiple linear regression analysis of predicting variables for quality of life domains**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Demographic variable** | **Physical domain** | **Psychological domain** | **Social domain** | **Environmental domain** | **Overall perception of QoL** | **Overall perception of health** |
|  | ***β*** | ***P-*value** | ***β*** | ***P*-value** | ***β*** | ***P*-value** | ***β*** | ***P*-value** | ***β*** | ***P*-value** | ***β*** | ***P*-value** |
| Age, (ref ≤ 71 yr) | -4.84 | 0.009 | -1.12 | 0.56 | -0.28 | 0.87 | 2.62 | 0.08 | 0.04 | 0.65 | -0.15 | 0.14 |
| Gender (ref = male) | -0.42 | 0.83 | -1.48 | 0.47 | 2.38 | 0.21 | 1.52 | 0.34 | -.003 | 0.98 | -0.18 | 0.09 |
| Marital status (ref = single) | -1.13 | 0.47 | -1.77 | 0.29 | -5.98 | 0.000 | -0.24 | 0.85 | -0.04 | 0.64 | -0.07 | 0.41 |
| Educational qualification (ref = illiterate)  | -0.04 | 0.96 | 1.27 | 0.19 | 0.92 | 0.30 | 2.75 | 0.000 | 0.09 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.50 |
| Type of family (ref = nuclear) | -2.96 | 0.08 | -4.32 | 0.02 | -1.45 | 0.37 | -2.03 | 0.14 | -0.03 | 0.71 | -0.02 | 0.84 |
| Monthly income (ref ≤ 20,000) | 3.57 | 0.005 | 0.35 | 0.79 | 2.86 | 0.02 | 2.13 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.39 | 0.16 | 0.02 |
| Habitat (ref = rural) | -3.37 | 0.06 | -0.57 | 0.76 | -1.88 | 0.27 | 1.57 | 0.21 | -0.02 | 0.82 | -0.11 | 0.26 |
| Years with DM (ref ≥ 15)  | 0.75 | 0.50 | 0.27 | 0.82 | -1.26 | 0.31 | -0.12 | 0.89 | 0.000 | 0.99 | 0.004 | 0.96 |
| Drug used (ref = other OHA) | -1.84 | 0.07 | -0.29 | 0.79 | -0.74 | 0.46 | 0.52 | 0.54 | -0.06 | 0.28 | -0.09 | 0.12 |
| Chronic comorbid illness (ref = hypertension) | -0.73 | 0.63 | -0.40 | 0.80 | 2.47 | 0.09 | 0.58 | 0.64 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.07 | 0.41 |
| Adherent level (ref = nonadherent) | 8.91 | 0.000 | 7.59 | 0.000 | -0.55 | 0.74 | 1.72 | 0.22 | 0.36 | 0.000 | 0.34 | 0.000 |

β-Standardized regression coefficient; DM: Diabetes mellitus; OHA: Oral hypoglycemic agent; QoL: Quality of Life; Ref: Reference group.