

Association between health literacy and adherence to medications among older adults

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Abstract

Background: Lack of compliance with medication prescription is common among older adults and hamper an adequate management of chronic conditions. **Aim:** To study the association between health literacy and medication adherence in older adults with chronic diseases in Temuco, Chile. **Material and Methods:** The Health Literacy survey for Spanish-speaking Adults, MiniMental examination and the Morisky-Green test to assess compliance with medication prescription were applied to 119 older adults aged 60 to 88 years. **Results:** All participants had an adequate global cognitive performance; 24% had inadequate literacy, and 42% did not comply with medication prescription. There was a significant correlation between health literacy and medication adherence. **Conclusions:** Health literacy influences medication adherence in Chilean older adults.

Author keywords

Aged
Chile
Chronic Disease
Health Literacy
Medication Adherence