MEDICINE'S WEAKEST LINK?

When a patient fills a prescription, the pharmacist might assume the patient will take it as instructed, but research shows a surprising number don't. In fact, it is estimated that only around half of medicines for long-term conditions are taken as prescribed and there is little evidence of any improvement in adherence rates over the past 50 years.¹



The Global View of Medication Nonadherence



200,000 Premature Deaths

in Europe per year due to poor adherence.²



2x as high

Mortality Rates for those patients with diabetes and heart disease who don't adhere to medications as compared to those who do.³

€1.25B

\$290B

AU\$7E

Cost to governments in avoidable hospitalizations, emergency care and outpatient visits due to poor patient adherence.^{4,5}



\$637B

Revenues

the global pharmaceutical industry forfeits each year.⁶



33%-69%

Unnecessary Hospital Admissions

in the US that are often the result of nonadherence.

\$2000

Increased Treatment Costs

Plus three additional medical visits per nonadherent patient every year in the ${\rm US.}^7$





World Health Organization:

"More health benefits worldwide would result from improving adherence to existing treatments than developing any new medical treatment."

World Snapshot8



Europe

50% of patients don't take their medications properly.

Approximately 200,000 premature deaths in Europe.

United Kingdom

30-50% of prescribed medications are not taken as recommended.¹²

Research shows that £500 million a year is being lost due to patients not taking their medicines properly.¹³

United States

50% of the 3.2 billion annual prescriptions dispensed in the US are not taken as prescribed.

Approximately 125,000 deaths per year in the US are linked to medication nonadherence.⁹

Germany

At least 33% of Germans repeatedly fail to follow their doctor's recommendations regarding pharmacological treatments and only 25% of Germans describe themselves as fully adherent.¹¹

France

20% of patients do not even buy prescribed medications in France.

Approximately **8,000 deaths** per year and 1.1 million hospital days are linked to medication nonadherence.

Total cost estimated to be €19 billion each year.¹º

¹Nieuwlaat R, Wilczynski N, Navarro T et al. Interventions for enhancing medication adherence. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2014; issue 11. Art. No: CD000011.doi:10.1002/14651858.CD000011.pub4.

²Medi-Voice Project http://cordis.europa.eu. ³Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Health Working Paper No. 105, Investing in medication adherence improves health outcomes and health system efficiency; Adherence to medicines for diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia, June 2018. ⁴MS Institute for Healthcare Informatics. Advancing the responsible use of medicines; applying levers for change. 2012 http://pharmanalyses.fr/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Advancing-Responsible-Use-of-Meds-Report-01-10-12.pdf (accessed 10 Mar 2016). ⁵AlHW. Health and welfare expenditure series no.57. Cat. no. HWE 67. Canberra: AlHW, 2016. ⁶https://healthprize.com/blog/medication-adherence-pharmas-637-billion-opportunity/. ⁷American Pharmacists Association/APhA AP. Medication compliance-adherence-persistence (CAP) Digest. Washington DC: American Pharmacists Association and Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, 2003. ⁸Med-e-Tel 2014 - Economic aspect of medication adherence using mobile medication reminder in French Health System. ⁹http://scriptyourfuture.org/wp-content/themes/cons/m/Script_Your_Future_Briefing_Paper.pdf.

¹⁰http://www.infirmiers.com/les-grands-dossiers/diabete/favoriser-observance-therapeutique.html. ¹¹Medication Adherence in the General Population

https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0050537. 12NCCSDO. Concordance, Adherence and Compliance in Medicine Taking. December 2005. 13The True Cost of Medication Non-Adherence http://www.letstakecareofit.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/The-True-Cost-of-Medication-Non-Adherence-Report.pdf.