

1. Social & Economic Dimension

- Limited English language proficiency
- Low health literacy
- Lack of family or social support network
- Unstable living conditions; homelessness
- Burdensome schedule
- Limited access to health care facilities
- Lack of health care insurance Inability or difficulty accessing pharmacy Medication cost
- Cultural and lay beliefs about illness and treatment
- Elder abuse

2. Healthcare System Dimension

- Provider-patient relationship
- Provider communication skills (contributing to lack of patient knowledge or understanding of the treatment regimen)
- Disparity between the health beliefs of the health care provider and those of the patient
- Lack of positive reinforcement from the health care provider
- Weak capacity of the system to educate patients and provide follow-up
- Lack of knowledge on adherence and of effective interventions for improving it Patient information materials written at too high literacy level
- Restricted formularies; changing medications covered on formularies
- High drug costs, copayments, or both
- Poor access or missed appointments
- Long wait times
- Lack of continuity of care

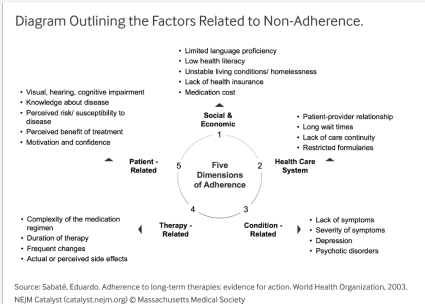
3. Condition-Related Dimension

- Chronic conditions
- Lack of symptoms
- Severity of symptoms
- Depression
- Psychotic disorders
- Mental retardation/developmental disability

4. Therapy-Related Dimension

- Complexity of medication regimen (number of daily doses; number of concurrent medications)
- Treatment requires mastery of certain techniques (injections, inhalers)
- Duration of therapy
- Frequent changes in medication regimen
- Lack of immediate benefit of therapy
- Medications with social stigma attached to use
- Actual or perceived unpleasant side effects
- Treatment interferes with lifestyle or requires significant behavioral changes

Medication Non-Adherence Factors



5. Patient-Related Dimension

Physical Factors

- Visual impairment
- Hearing impairment
- Cognitive impairment
- Impaired mobility or dexterity
- Swallowing problems

Psychological/Behavioral Factors

- Knowledge about disease
- Perceived risk/susceptibility to disease
- Understanding reason medication is needed
- Expectations or attitudes toward treatment
- Perceived benefit of treatment
- Confidence in ability to follow treatment regimen
- Motivation
- Fear of possible adverse effects
- Fear of dependence
- Feeling stigmatized by the disease
- Frustration with health care providers
- Psychosocial stress, anxiety, anger
- Alcohol or substance abuse



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