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| **Excluded papers and reasons for exclusion in original search carried out between November and December 2011** |
| Schneeweiss et al, 2007 [[1](#_ENREF_1)] (beta blockers) | Could not retrieve adjusted estimates |
| Schneeweiss et al, 2007 [[2](#_ENREF_2)] (statins) | Could not retrieve adjusted estimates |
| Farley et al, 2010 [[3](#_ENREF_3)] | Could not retrieve data for meta-analysis |
| Hsu et al, 2006 [[4](#_ENREF_4)] | Could not retrieve data for meta-analysis |
| Domino et al, 2011 [[5](#_ENREF_5)] | Could not retrieve data for meta-analysis |
| Dormuth et al, 2006 [[6](#_ENREF_6)] | Does not study adherence – uses DDD but in a utilisation capacity |
| Hynd et al, 2009 [[7](#_ENREF_7)] | Does not study adherence – uses DDD but in a utilisation capacity |
| Raebel et al, 2008 [[8](#_ENREF_8)] | Use MRA – Medication Refill Adherence not one of the specified outcome measures |
| Starmans et al, 1994 [[9](#_ENREF_9)] | Does not study adherence – uses DDD but in a utilisation capacity |
| Taira et al, 2006 [[10](#_ENREF_10)] | Cross sectionalNo control group; comparison group is private No data on medicare baseline characteristics (all groups characterised together) |
| Ye etal, 2007 [[11](#_ENREF_11)] | Medicare and commercial data were combined for analysis |
| Zeng et al, 2010 [[12](#_ENREF_12)] | Models effect of copayment on adherence however this modelling isn’t broken down by medicare/commercial – just aggregate copayment levels.  |
| Cole et al, 2006 [[13](#_ENREF_13)] | Medicare supplemental and commercial mixed together in results |
| Neugut et al, 2011 [[14](#_ENREF_14)] | Reports 8.9% non-adherence in our medicare sample over 2 years, this isn’t compared to anything else. Also this is for varying copays. |
| Foster et al, 2011 [[15](#_ENREF_15)] | No appropriate comparison or control group |
| Ong et al, 2003 [[16](#_ENREF_16)] | Does not study adherence – uses DDD but in a utilisation capacity |

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| **Excluded papers and reasons for exclusion in updated search carried out in September 2012** |
| Assayag et al, 2011 [[17](#_ENREF_17)] | Comparison group is a private population |
| Zeng et al 2012 [[18](#_ENREF_18)] | Commercially insured |
| Wladysiuk et al, 2011 [[19](#_ENREF_19)] | Uses DDDs |
| Lee et al, 2012 [[20](#_ENREF_20)] | Does not look at adherence. Looks at utilisation. |
| Lau et al, 2011 [[21](#_ENREF_21)] | Review article |
| Kleinman et al, 2012 [[22](#_ENREF_22)] | Mixed populations  |
| Kim et al, 2011 [[23](#_ENREF_23)] | Medicare and Medicaid patients were excluded |
| Kibicho and Pinkerton, 2012 [[24](#_ENREF_24)] | Analyses health policies – doesn’t look at adherence.  |
| Kennedy et al, 2011 [[25](#_ENREF_25)] | Does not assess adherence |
| Geers et al, 2011 [[26](#_ENREF_26)] | Does not look at copay |
| Einecke, 2011 [[27](#_ENREF_27)] | Review/comment article |
| Burke, 2012 [[28](#_ENREF_28)] | Review article |
| Briesacher et al, 2011 [[29](#_ENREF_29)] | Self-reported data |
| APhA Abstracts, 2011 [[30](#_ENREF_30)] | Abstracts – none relevant |
| Mahabaleshwarkar [[31](#_ENREF_31)] | Contacted in march. They did not publish the work. |
| Palmer et al, 2011[[32](#_ENREF_32)] | Contacted authors not published until October |
| Subramanian, 2011 [[33](#_ENREF_33)] | No PDC/ReCOMP/MPR |
| Fung et al, 2012 [[34](#_ENREF_34)] | Contacted authors – no reply |

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