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Authors	Jennings, Emma L. M.;Murphy, Kevin D.;Gallagher, Paul F.;O'Mahony, Denis
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In-Hospital Adverse Drug Reactions in Hospitalised Older Adults: A Systematic Review

Emma Jennings^{1,2}, Kevin Murphy³, Paul Gallagher^{1,2}, Denis O'Mahony^{1,2}

1. Department of Geriatric Medicine, Cork University Hospital, Cork, Ireland. 2. Department of Medicine, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland.

3. School of Pharmacy, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland

Introduction

- Almost ten percent of older-adults experience an adverse drug reaction [ADR] associated with acute hospitalisation
- Individual studies suggest that up to 1 in 4

Records identified through	Additional records identified	
systematic database search	through hand search	
(n = 1,872)	(n = 58)	
Records after duplicates (n = 1,779)	removed	



experience an ADR in hospital.

This systematic review [SR] aims to evaluate in-hospital ADRs in hospitalised older-adults; frequency, culprit drug classes, severity, and clinical consequence.

Methods

This SR was conducted Following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta (PRISMA) (Moher et al., 2009). Two Analyses researchers (EJ, KM) screened all papers for inclusion, risk of bias and data extraction independently.

Registration

• PROPSERO registration CRD42018079095

Search Strategy

- Databases electronic databases [PubMed, Embase and EBSCO-CINAHL, Cochrane Library] and libraryhosted academic sources, google scholar, and grey literature.
- Search term stems aged, ADRs, hospitalized, multimorbid, polypharmacy and hospital-acquired [search strategy available on request from author]
- Bibliographic hand searches of relevant editorials and systematic reviews.



From: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097

Figure 1. PRISMA Flowchart outlining study selection

Results

Study selection – see PRISMA Diagram [Figure 1.]

1930 abstracts were identified, 1,779 were screened, 228 underwent fulltext screening. 23 papers reporting 22 studies were included ^[1-23] 11 ADRs in participants \geq 65 years, 11 ADRs all age adults (extractable data for \geq 65 available in 5 studies, supplemental data provided by authors in 6 studies)

≥ 65 years experiences a clinically significant **ADR in-hospital**

11 commonly prescribed drug classes account for 85% of ADRs

Diuretics	22%
Anti-thrombotics Vitamin-K antagonists 10%, Heparin 2%, Platelet aggregation inhibitors 2%	14%
Antimicrobials	12%
Opioids	11%

Paper Inclusion/Exclusion

- All languages.
- All dates up to and including the date of the final search [15/01/2018] were eligible.
- Any study that reported on ADRs either as a primary or secondary outcome in those aged 65 years or older that were hospitalised at time of ADR occurrence.
 - Review articles, systematic reviews, case reports and letters to the editor were subsequently excluded – their bibliography was hand searched for suitable studies.
- When data reported was for all ages, but there was evidence of \geq 65 cohort the author was contacted requesting data for those aged 65 and over.
 - A template document for completion was provided.
 - Two attempts were made to the listed author, followed by an attempt to contact a co-author.

Study Quality / Risk of Bias Assessment

Included studies were assessed for risk of bias and study quality.

- Cochrane for randomised controlled trials
- STROBE checklist for case cohort studies
- Newcastle-Ottawa Scale for non-randomised studies

Data Extraction

Characteristics of Included Studies

21,306 patients were included in the 22 studies; 15,769 (74%) were aged ≥65 years. 50% male, 50% female (reported in 18 studies). Polypharmacy (reported as a mean/median \geq 5 medications at baseline) was reported and present in 12 studies. Multi-morbidity (reported as a mean/median number of diagnoses \geq 3 at baseline) was reported in 9 and present in 8 studies.

ADR Rates

22 Studies reported ADR incidence – 2186 patients \geq 65 years experienced ADRs in-hospital. Median 19.77% [IQR 10.44 – 25.35] Min 4.95% Max 42.19%.

Reported ADR Presentation

16 studies reported on ADR presentation (n = 13,217, 1,403 ADR presentations). 20% (283) metabolism and nutritional disorders; 17% (246) nervous system disorders; 15% (210) cardiac disorders; 13% (185) gastrointestinal disorders; 10% (148) renal and urinary disorders; 6% (80) blood and lymphatic system disorders.

ADR Drugs

ADR associated drugs were extractable in 15 papers (1528 reported drugs in 1253 ADR patients). 85% of ADRs were associated with 11 commonly prescribed medications.

ADR Severity

14 studies reported severity (n = 13,171; reported ADRs = 1,947). 72% of reported ADRs were at least of moderate severity. 29% (560 ADRs) were severe.

ADR Preventability

5 studies assessed preventability (n = 3602, reporting 672 ADRs), 69% of reported ADRs were preventable.

Psycholeptics	6%
Drugs used in diabetes Insulin 3%, oral hypoglycaemic agents 1%	
CACE-I, ARBs	4%
Systemic corticosteroids	3%
Drugs for obstructive airway disease	3%
Cardiac glycosides	3%
Anti-hypertensives	3%



We extracted data to assess percentage of study cohort \geq 65 that experienced an ADR, reported presentation of ADRs, Drugs deemed accountable, ADR severity, ADR preventability, any measured outcomes.

Outcomes

5 papers reported on post ADR outcomes [3 length of stay [LOS], 1 LOSdeath, 1 functional decline].



Conclusion:

- There is a *lack of consistency* in methodologies used for *ADR* identification, assessment and *reporting in the literature*.
- Incident ADRs occurring in-hospital in older adults (2 65 years) are *common*, occurring in *1 in 5 hospitalised* older adults.
- 11 commonly prescribed drug classes account for 85% of all ADRs.
- 1 in 4 of ADRs are severe.
- 2 of 3 ADRs could be preventable.
- Despite this, there is *under-reporting* of measurable clinical outcomes associated with ADRs.
- Development of *drug based* ADR *prediction* tools may lead to better ADR *prevention*.

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Author contact: elmjennings@gmail.com