

*[P-476E] Comparison in the reduction of low density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol in patients receiving treatment from a lipid clinic compared to a primary care clinic*

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*The objective of this research is to evaluate the adherence to National Cholesterol Education Program guidelines in the treatment of hyperlipidemia, comparing patients treated by different providers. A retrospective chart review was performed at the ambulatory care clinics at Bay Pines Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Patients receiving treatment for hyperlipidemia were identified through a computer. All patients were assessed for age, risk factors, and presence or absence of coronary artery disease. Data collected on each patient included age, gender, goal LDL, presence of CAD, LDL levels at initiation of therapy and periods thereafter if available. Each patient was also assessed as to whether or not the LDL goal was met and the length of time to reach the goal. This study also looked at the number of medications used and the costs associated with them. This study compared 120 patients. 60 in the PharmCare (PC) group and 60 in the PrimaryCare group (DR). The PC group had 82% of their patients reach the LDL goal while the DR group had 63% of their patients reach the LDL goal. The p value equaled 0.024. The average time to reach the goal was 3.4 months in the PC group and 10.8 months in the DR group. The PC group used an average of 1.4 medications a month at a cost savings to the VA. The DR group used an average of 1.1 medications a month. The results of this study conclude that pharmacy managed lipid clinics are a cost effective alternative in the management of hyperlipidemia.*