

<u>Session/Poster#</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
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Social Needs and Medication Access in Brooklyn and Chicago Emergency Departments

Background: Social determinants of health (SDoH) affect health outcomes and can influence adherence to medication regimens. However, there is limited data on the linkage between SDoH and medication adherence in the Emergency Department (ED). The objective of this study is to identify social needs and assess medication adherence of ED patients in Brooklyn and Chicago.

Methods: This is a prospective cross-sectional and multi-site study to determine SDoH and medication adherence. We included adults (≥18 years), who spoke English, and took ≥4 prescription medications or 1 "high risk" medication (deemed "high risk" based on their long-term usage and side effects). Patients completed a survey regarding demographics, social needs, and medication adherence.

Results: To date, we enrolled 108 patients (50.9% female) across three Eds (mean age - 59yrs). Of this population, 11 (10.2%) reported unstable housing, 20 (18.5%) reported concern about having sufficient food, 34 (31.5%) reported always or sometimes having insufficient money to pay bills, and 29 (26.9%) neglected medical care due to distance or transportation. 37 participants (34.3%) reported running out of their medications sometimes or always, with 16 (14.8%) stating they sometimes would defer refilling medications due to cost and 10 (9.3%) noting that they sometimes took less medication to save money. 20 participants (18.5%) reported that paying for medications was somewhat or very difficult, while 17 (15.7%) reported that understanding the medication regimen was somewhat or very difficult.

Conclusion: Among patients presenting to the ED who were on ≥4 medications or taking "high risk" medications, over one-third had social needs that impacted their medical care. The most reported social needs were insufficient money to pay bills and difficulty accessing medical care due to distance or transportation. The most common medication adherence issue was running out of medication and difficulty paying for medications.