



## Exploring the factors Affecting the Compliance of Treatment among the Diabetic Patients

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### ABSTRACT:

Diabetes Mellitus in a heterogeneous group of diseases characterized by state of chronic hyperglycemia resulting from diversity of etiologies environmental and. Above 10% of people with diabetes have type-1 while 90% have type-II. Compliance in medicine is the patient adherence to the course of treatment recommended by physicians. Patient's compliance depends upon various factors like socio-economics education and behavior of the main considerations. The aim of this study was to explore the factors affecting the compliance of treatment among the diabetic patients; and how to overcome those factors. The objectives of the study were to look into the demographic characteristics of study population; the role of socio-economic condition on compliance in diabetics; the role of false believes on compliance in diabetics; the role of drugs availability on compliance in diabetics, and the role of psychological factors on compliance in diabetics. This study finds that it has been found that monthly income, hypoglycemic attack, attitude, gender effect the compliance of the patient. Education has no effect on compliance. False beliefs and lack of education about disease negatively affect compliance.

**Keywords:** Diabetes, Patients, Treatment Compliance, Factors Affecting Treatment Compliance.

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### Introduction



Diabetes Mellitus is a heterogeneous group of diseases characterized by state of chronic hyperglycemia resulting from diversity of etiologies environmental and genetic (Atinga, Yarney, & Minta, 2018). Above 10% of people with diabetes have type-1 (insulin dependent diabetes) while 90% have type-II (non-insulin dependent diabetes). Oral and injectable both medicine have important role in control of diabetes mellitus. Compliance in medicine is the patient adherence to the course of treatment recommended by physicians (Badawy, Shah, Be, & Heneghan, 2020). Patient's compliance depends upon various factors around them. Socio-economics education and behavior of the main considerations. In diabetics, compliance is the most important component of the management and control of hyperglycemia (Caraceni, Fainsinger, and Foley, 2009). Diabetes mellitus is a worldwide public health problem. It is an "iceberg" disease. Prevalence is 4% worldwide and is on rise; more than 150 million people worldwide have diabetes.

By the year 2025 WHO projects more than 300 million cases worldwide with prevalence 5.4%. 77% of global burden of diabetes mellitus is share by developing countries. Pakistan is on top in Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East region with 8.8 million people and 12% of population having diabetes mellitus. Pakistan ranked 8111 among countries with the highest number of diabetics in 1995 by 2025. Pakistan will have 15 million diabetic people and 4<sup>th</sup> rank in world, it. Any serious intervention is not undertaken. Rising burden in Pakistan is attributed to industrialization, socio-economic condition, population growth, growing prevalence of obesity, non-compliance of treatment, lack of education, eating habits. Compliance is a neglected part of research in diabetes mellitus.

Research in this field will help the public health personnel and policy makers to remove the factor leading to poor compliance. Poor compliance leads to uncontrolled DM and development of the complication like neuropathy, nephropathy, retinopathy, and cardiac effects, all of which results in prolong medical care, loss of income due to disability, loss family bread winner and increase death due to DM. compliance is a factor of DM which can improve with health education and economic support to the people. In our region, analysis of the factors leading to poor compliance must be rooted out, so that measures should be taken to improve the compliance among diabetic patients.

The aim of this study was to explore the factors affecting the compliance of treatment among the diabetic patients; and how to overcome those factors. The objectives of the study were to look into the demographic characteristics of study population; the role of socio-economic condition on compliance in diabetics; the role of false believes on compliance in diabetics; the role of drugs availability on compliance in diabetics, and the role of psychological factors on compliance in diabetics.

Further, study was intended to study the role of expenses blood testing on compliance in diabetics; the role of multiple drugs dosages on compliance in diabetics, the role of fear of hypoglycemia on compliance in diabetics, and then to draw recommendation in the light of present study results. This study will help the concerned public health policy makers, service providers and patients to understand the factors in II influencing the compliance in DM, controlling, and eliminating the factors.

### **Hypothesis**

Patients with diabetes has low compliance because of lack of education low income, fear of hypoglycemia and multiple drug prescriptions by physicians.

## Literature Review

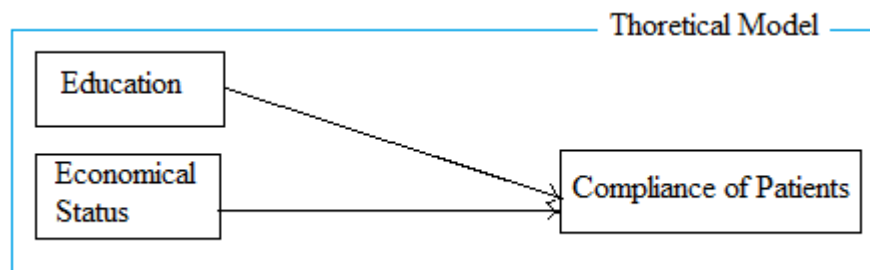
Literature review undertaking provided for foundation for developing theoretical framework of the problem in a study about compliance in diabetic patients (Jiang, Liu, Li, Xie, & Jiang, 2021). In USA 25 thousands people with treatable ailment died each ye4 due to non- taking of prescribed medicines. 14 to 21% of patients never follow the prescription, while 60% do not identify their own medicines.

There are many studies on compliance in diabetic patients as given (Kardas, 2005). Reference and quoted from the study which is held in College of Medical Sciences King Khalid University Abha, Saudi Arabia, the factor which are affecting the compliance are education, gender, culture, finance. (Economic) (Moore, Hall, Harper, & Lynch, 2010). The effect of oral hypoglycemic dose frequency on compliance, are taken from the study of DIACOM which is resulted that one daily dose improves compliance (Kendall, Amineh, Lisa, 2024). There was no relationship between knowledge about diabetes and compliance established as a result of study in Hong Kong, in this study knowledge to action gape is noted (Azharuddin, Adil, Sharma, & Gyawali, 2021).

Another study conducted in rural health center Chenia South India, that non-compliance seen in 57% of patients because of lack of education. Relation between patient and health care system also discussed in this study and emerge as a key factor in noncompliance (Pati, Pati, van den Akker, Schellevis, Sahoo, & Burgers, 2021). Comparison between white and African of compliance to prescription of diabetes results in 12r% less compliance in blacks from whites due to lower socio-economic condition and lower level of education (Piragine, Petri, Martelli, Calderone, & Lucenteforte, 2023). Inverse relationship between increasing compliance and medical care cast was observed in Retrospective Cohort study at Blue Cross, Michigan City (Rashidi, Kaistha, Whitehead, & Robinson, 2020). A study in Sainte Tomas Hospital Espana, Manilla Philippine result in the patient experienced fewer episodes of hypoglycemic attacks lead to better-drug compliance (Rashidi, Whitehead, & Kaistha, 2021). Brief article science general January 20, 2001 poor communication with physicians' leads to non-compliance of patient (Stack, Elliott, Noyce, & Bundy, 2008). In another study in Lahore General Hospital cost of disease, carelessness and lack of education are the factors effecting compliance (Sweileh, Aker, & Hamooz, 2005). In Saudi Arabia, a study of compliance it was noted that duration of the disease and degree of care were the most common variable found to predict compliance. (Wild, Roglic, & Green, 2004).

### Figure 1

#### Theoretical Framework



## Method

Research methodology refers to the various sequential steps adopted by a researcher in studying problems. (Kothari, 2004) Research Methodology describes what we are going to do in technical terms. This section should include as many subsections as needed to show the phases of the research work. It provides information on our proposed design for such tasks as defining target population, sample and size, data collection methods, instrumentation, procedures, and ethical requirements. The group of objects (persons, places, things, or events) in which a researcher is interested is called population. In words of Sekaran (2003), "The aggregate of all the cases that confirm to some designated set of specification". The population of research includes all people/patients

of DIKhan. The essence of sampling is the selection of a part (sample) 11.0111 the whole (population) in order to make inferences about the whole. A sample, as the name implies, is a smaller representation of a larger whole. The process by which samples or samples the drawn from a population is called sampling. The main purpose of sampling is to reduce the time and money that would be spent if the total population were studied and yet still realize data that are accurate representations of the population (Goode & Hatt, 1952). Sample is that portion of population, which is chosen systematically with the objective that it represents all the characteristics of the population. It means that every element of the population has or has not the opportunity to be selected in the sample. Therefore, the researcher selected a sample or 100 respondents through convenience sampling technique. A further 80 questionnaires were returned back, thus analysis was done for 80 questionnaires. The data was obtained from both sources primary as well as secondary data.

## Results

Methodology is a series of steps and procedures to conduct research. A sample is representative of population that contains all the characteristics of total population. 48 questionnaires were distributed randomly through a simple random method. 48 questionnaires were returned after completion.

**Table 1**

*Data is analyzed on Basis of Statistical Software (SPSS-13.0) Demographic Variables*

Variable	Frequency
Age	20-30=7, 30-40=10, 40-50=20, 50-60=6, 60-70=5, above 70=0
Sex	Male=27, Female=21
Residential Status	Rural=0 Urban=48
Ethnicity	Pathan =0, Local=48, Migrate=0
Marital Status	Married=42, Un Married=6
Occupation Status	Employed=25, Unemployed=23
Education	Illiterate=8, Primary=7, Matric=16, Graduate=14, Postgraduate=3
Monthly Income	Less than 10000=32, 10000-25000=16

**Table 2**

*Research Variables*

Variable	Variable Compared	Chi Square	P- Value	Statistical Significance
Monthly Income	Afford Drugs	13.71	0.00	Significance
Monthly Income	Afford Doctor Fees	17.14	0.000	Significant
Monthly Income	Afford Lab Expenses	20.31	0.00	Significant
Education	Medicine Taking Attitude	9.34	0.053	Not Significant
Education	Regular Taking Anti Diabetic	11.31	0.023	Significant
Education	Diabetes is Curable	4.38	0.356	Not Significant
Medicine Taking Attitude	Hypoglycemic Attack	10.45	0.001	Significant
Sex	Diabetes is Curable	2.89	0.089	Not Significant
Sex	Consult Spiritual Healer	2.72	0.099	Not Significant
Monthly Income	Medicine Taking Attitude	2.68	0.101	Not Significant
Monthly Income	Regular Taking Anti Diabetic	1.60	0.206	Not Significant

## Discussion and Conclusion

In research for non-compliance in Diabetic patient results are as follows: Monthly income of 67(70 patients is less of them IMMO rupees WRI it hits significant effect on visit to Doctor, Lab test and buying medicine and but no effect on compliance. It is because of cheap anti diabetic medicine and free drug. Availability in some institutions. Education has no significant role in compliance in diabetics. 83% of patients are educated while their compliance is low. This shows that education does not affect the adherence to prescription. Compliance is independent of the education level of the patient. The hypoglycemic effect on the diabetic patient directly affects the compliance. 75% of patients answered that they missed the tablet because of fear of hypoglycemic symptoms. Dizziness and cold sweat are fearful symptoms. Patients quit drugs due to these fatal problems. Female patients are very irregular in taking drugs according to prescription. 68% of diabetic female patient replied that they not regularly taking drugs. Low compliance in female is mostly due to our cultural setup. Ours is a male dominant society and females are not properly treated they cannot medicate themselves and dependent on males to purchase drugs for that. Compliance to drugs in diabetic patient is a serious problem in our society. Complication due to poor diabetic control leads to disability, morbidity, and mortality. After analyzing the data, it has been found that monthly income, hypoglycemic attack, attitude, gender effect the compliance of the patient. Education has no effect on compliance. False beliefs and lack of education about disease negatively affect compliance.

## Recommendations

Increase literacy rate among population. Health education and health promotion for diabetic patients. Provision of free diabetic clinics in the community. Diabetic clinic in district headquarter hospital. Provision of free services including laboratory and drugs to poor diabetic patients. Doorstep health education and service to female diabetics in community. Control and counter action on advertisement of quacks and ineffective medicines. Proper advertisement adds awareness on media about the disease and compliance. Sympathetic and friendly relationship between GPs and patients to improve compliance. Programs like '1'13 DOT should be started about diabetics. Training of GPs and other health care providers about the care of diabetic patients. Single drug therapy (combined pills) should be encouraged. Availability of anti-diabetic drugs improved. Religious and political leaders should be involved to improve the compliance of diabetic patients.

## Declaration of Interest

The author declares that there was no clash of interest.

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