

A research article was published in the *European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy* this week on the development of pharmacist interventions in the management of Parkinson's disease.

The article examines the compliance outcomes from a study of 35 patients recruited from the Movement Disorders Outpatient Clinic at Zammit Clapp Hospital in Malta. All participants were Maltese with a mean age of 74 years.

Pharmacist intervention tools included a treatment medication chart, two patient leaflets and a pharmacist-run discussion with patients and their caregivers. Outcomes were measured using a Compliance Questionnaire, the PDQ-39 Quality of Life Questionnaire and an Intervention Evaluation Sheet.

The results of the study found a statistically significant improvement in patients' compliance with treatment on the second pharmacist visit compared to the first visit. The average domain dimension scores of the PDQ-39 questionnaire showed an overall improvement in the patients' quality of life with Mobility ($p=0.038$), Activities of Daily Living ($p=0.006$) and Social Support ($p=0.01$) showing a statistically significant improvement following the pharmacist's intervention. Fifteen patients were in favour of always having a pharmacist intervening.

The study concluded the inclusion of the hospital pharmacist in the multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals significantly improves patient and caregiver well-being through better medication compliance and improved health status.

The full text of the research article is available of the EJHP website [here](#) [1].

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Links

[1] <http://ejhp.bmj.com/content/early/2012/05/31/ejhpharm-2011-000036.full>