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Quality of Life Research

Volume 28, Issue 7, 15 July 2019, Pages 1913-1920

## Does inappropriate prescribing affect elderly patients' quality of life? A study from a Malaysian tertiary hospital (Article)

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### Abstract

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**Purpose:** To investigate the association between potentially inappropriate medication (PIM)/potential prescribing omission (PPO) and the health-related quality of life (HRQoL) among community-dwelling hospitalized elderly patients. **Methods:** This is a cross-sectional study that took place in a Malaysian tertiary hospital. Patients ≥ 65 years old with at least one medication on admission were recruited. The patients' prehospitalization medications were reviewed to identify PIMs/PPOs using version 2 of the STOPP/START criteria. HRQoL was assessed using the EuroQol-5 dimensions (EQ-5D) and EuroQol-visual analog scale (EQ-VAS). The association between the presence of PIM/PPO and the patients' HRQoL was analyzed using Chi-square and Mann-Whitney U tests. Multiple linear regression models were applied to determine the effect of exposure to PIM/PPO on the patients' HRQoL, adjusting for confounders. **Results:** Out of 517 patients who fulfilled the inclusion criteria, 502 patients (97%) accepted to be involved in the study and completed the HRQoL questionnaire. The mean (SD) age was 72.4 (5.9) years. 393 (78.3%) of the patients had problems in at least one EQ-5D dimension with pain/discomfort problem being the most reported complaint. The mean (SD) values of the EQ-5D index and the EQ-VAS were 0.734 (0.214) and 59.6 (14.2), respectively, which are lower than those seen in the general Malaysian population. PIM and PPO were found in 28.5% and 45.6% of the patients, respectively. No significant differences were found in the EQ-5D dimensions, EQ-5D index and EQ-VAS between patients who had PIM/PPO and those who did not. Age, sex, and comorbidities were significantly associated with the patients' HRQoL. **Conclusion:** PIM and PPO are not uncommon among hospitalized elderly patients; however, it does not significantly affect their HRQoL as measured by the EQ-5D-3L instrument. © 2019, Springer Nature Switzerland AG.

### SciVal Topic Prominence ⓘ

Topic: Polypharmacy | Inappropriate Prescribing | Medications PIMs

Prominence percentile: 99.087



### Author keywords

Elderly patients EQ-5D-3L Health-related quality of life Hospitalization Potentially inappropriate prescribing

### Indexed keywords

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Funding details

Funding sponsor	Funding number	Acronym
International Islamic University Malaysia		IIUM
International Islamic University Malaysia		IIUM

Funding text

Funding This study was funded by the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) Research Initiative Grant Scheme (No. RIGS 15-098-0098).

ISSN: 09629343  
CODEN: QLREE  
Source Type: Journal  
Original language: English

DOI: 10.1007/s11136-019-02153-5  
PubMed ID: 30830646  
Document Type: Article  
Publisher: Springer International Publishing

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doi: 10.1186/1477-7525-9-95

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