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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Diabetes mellitus is a major health problem that is growing rapidly worldwide. A collaborative and integrated team approach in which pharmacists can play a pivotal role should be sought when managing patients with diabetes.

OBJECTIVE: To identify and summarize the main outcomes of pharmacist interventions in the management of type 2 diabetes.

METHODS: PubMed, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, and Web of Science were searched for randomized controlled trials evaluating the effectiveness of any pharmacist intervention directed at patients with type 2 diabetes in comparison with usual care. Outcome measures of interest included glycosylated hemoglobin (A1c), blood glucose, blood pressure, lipid profile, body mass index (BMI), 10-year coronary heart disease (CHD) risk, medication adherence, health-related quality of life (HRQoL), and economic outcomes. The risk of bias in included studies was assessed using the Cochrane risk of bias tool.

RESULTS: Thirty-six studies were included in this systematic review, involving 5,761 participants. The studies evaluated the effects of several pharmacist interventions carried out in various countries and in different health care facilities, such as community pharmacies, primary care clinics, and hospitals. The number of studies reporting each outcome of interest varied. A1c was evaluated in 26 studies, of which 24 reported a greater reduction in this outcome in the intervention group compared with the control group, with the difference in change between groups ranging from -0.18% to -2.1%. Eighteen studies assessed change in systolic blood pressure, of which 17 studies reported a greater improvement in this outcome in the intervention group, with the difference in change between groups varying between -3.3 mmHg and -23.05 mmHg. For diastolic blood pressure, a greater effect was also observed in the intervention group in 14 out of 15 studies, with the difference in change between groups varying between -0.21 mmHg and -9.1 mmHg. Thirteen studies described total cholesterol as an outcome measure, of which 10 reported a greater improvement in this outcome in the intervention group, with the difference in change between groups ranging from +18.95 mg dL⁻¹ to -32.48 mg dL⁻¹. With regard to low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, a greater reduction in this parameter in the intervention group was documented in 12 out of 15 studies, with the difference in change between groups varying between +7.35 mg dL⁻¹ and -30 mg dL⁻¹. Similarly, favorable data were reported on high-density lipoprotein cholesterol in the intervention group in 9 out of 12 studies that assessed this outcome, with the difference in change between groups ranging from -5.8 mg dL⁻¹ to +11 mg dL⁻¹. Data on triglycerides were also reported in 12 studies, of which 9 reported a greater reduction in triglycerides levels in the intervention group, with the difference in change between groups varying between +12 mg dL⁻¹ and -62 mg dL⁻¹. Overall, a beneficial effect on BMI was also described in the intervention group in 12

out of 14 studies. Of note, in all 6 studies that estimated the 10-year CHD risk among study patients, a greater improvement in the intervention group *versus* the control group was found. In addition, pharmacist interventions also had a positive impact on medication adherence and HRQoL in most studies that ascertained these outcomes. Finally, although only 3 studies conducted a cost-effectiveness analysis, pharmacist interventions proved to be cost-effective.

CONCLUSIONS: The findings from this review clearly support the involvement of pharmacists as members of health care teams in the management of patients with type 2 diabetes.

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What is already known about this subject

- Type 2 diabetes is a serious and highly prevalent metabolic disorder that imposes unacceptable high costs on many countries around the world.
- Regardless of the arsenal of therapeutic options currently available to tackle this disease, metabolic control still remains suboptimal among patients with type 2 diabetes.
- The management of diabetes requires close collaboration between the patient and a multidisciplinary health care team, in which pharmacists may also take part by providing pharmaceutical care programs.

What this study adds

- Overall, the randomized controlled trials included in this review demonstrated that pharmacist interventions resulted in greater improvements in many outcomes when compared with usual care, such as in glycosylated hemoglobin, blood glucose, blood pressure, lipid profile, medication adherence, and health-related quality of life.
- This review highlights the need for more economic analysis studies in order to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of pharmacist interventions and for further research into the intervention elements that contribute the most to the observed effects.
- This review encourages the construction of standard, well-validated tools to ascertain certain outcomes, so that data from different studies concerning these outcomes can be analyzed together.

Type 2 diabetes mellitus is a chronic disease that, if left uncontrolled, may cause microvascular and macrovascular complications in the long term, which are the main causes of increased morbidity and mortality and decreased health-related quality of life among patients.¹⁻⁵ Unfortunately, diabetes—particularly type 2 diabetes—is reaching epidemic proportions as its prevalence increases at an alarming rate in developed and developing countries.⁶ Indeed, it was estimated that 415 million people globally suffered from diabetes in 2015, and this number is predicted to increase to 642 million people by 2040.⁶

Also of concern is that diabetes and associated complications impose an increasing and huge economic burden on national health care systems worldwide. The global health expenditure on diabetes was estimated to be at least \$673 billion U.S. dollars (USD) in 2015, representing 11.6% of the world's total health expenditure, and this amount is expected to exceed \$802 billion USD in 2040.⁶ For these reasons, diabetes is one of the most worrying health problems of the twentyfirst century and requires immediate attention.

Despite the existence of effective therapies and the demonstrated benefits derived from tight control of blood glucose and other cardiovascular risk factors, such as blood pressure and serum lipids,⁷⁻⁹ evidence indicates that the achievement of recommended targets for these factors remains suboptimal among patients with type 2 diabetes.¹⁰⁻¹² Lack of adherence to treatment and other recommendations might explain these findings, given that more than 50% of chronically treated patients do not follow the recommended lifestyle changes or do not take the prescribed pharmacotherapy.¹³ The factors that contribute to low levels of adherence include complex treatment regimens, medication side effects, poor patient-provider communication, patient financial resources and beliefs, psychiatric disorders, and memory impairment.^{14,15}

In order to address the current challenges of achieving therapeutic goals among the diabetes population, new models of health care delivery should be developed and implemented. Because of their expertise in pharmacotherapy and their accessibility in the community, pharmacists are able to build strong relationships with patients and become a reliable source of information. Thus, pharmacists are in an ideal position to provide patient education and monitor and promote adherence to self-care and therapeutic regimens, which have a positive impact on achieving therapeutic outcomes in diabetes.^{16,17} In addition, because of their extended scientific and technical knowledge, pharmacists are especially alerted to certain aspects, such as the occurrence of adverse drug reactions and interactions, and specific features associated with aging and comorbidities.

Because of the complex nature of diabetes, and as recommended by the American Diabetes Association, a collaborative and integrated team approach should be sought for its management, in which the patient must play an active role along with a multidisciplinary health care team.¹⁸ In this context, pharmacists can also contribute positively to diabetes management by providing pharmaceutical care programs, which involve working closely with the patient and other health care professionals in designing, implementing, and monitoring therapeutic plans to achieve specific outcomes that will improve patient quality of life.¹⁹ Because of the ongoing relationships with other health care professionals, pharmacists can also serve as a "bridge" between the patients and these health care professionals, thereby ensuring continuity of care, which is essential in the management of chronic diseases such as diabetes.

In the past decade or so, there has been a growing body of literature assessing the effectiveness of pharmacist involvement in the management of diabetic patients in various settings. Nevertheless, only a few systematic reviews have been published on this topic, and some of them evaluated pharmacist interventions in patients with type 1 diabetes as well as with type 2 diabetes.^{20,21} Moreover, some of these reviews focused on a limited number of outcomes,²⁰⁻²² included other types of studies (e.g., cohort studies) in addition to randomized controlled trials,^{21,23} excluded some types of pharmacist interventions,²¹ and considered a small number of studies.^{22,23}

In order to address these shortcomings, the purpose of this systematic review is to give a global and comprehensive review of the effectiveness of pharmacist interventions in the management of type 2 diabetes specifically, focusing on clinical, humanistic, and economic outcomes and including only the most robust studies, that is, randomized controlled trials, without putting restrictions on the type of pharmacist interventions.

Methods

Search Strategy and Inclusion Criteria

Three electronic databases (PubMed, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, and Web of Science) were searched from inception to January 2015. The PubMed search strategy served as a reference for the development of search strategies for the remaining databases. The search terms used included medical subject headings and text terms combined with Boolean operators. The detailed search strategy used for each database is provided in the Appendix (available in online article).

Studies were included in this review if they were randomized controlled trials or cluster-randomized controlled trials evaluating the effectiveness of interventions delivered only or mainly by pharmacists and directed at patients with type 2 diabetes in comparison with usual care. Studies that took place in a community pharmacy and in outpatient primary care and hospital settings were also included. Studies were included if they reported 1 or more of the following outcomes: glycosylated hemoglobin (A1c); blood glucose (fasting, postprandial, or random); blood pressure; lipid profile (total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein



cholesterol [LDL], high-density lipoprotein cholesterol [HDL], and triglycerides); body mass index (BMI); 10-year coronary heart disease (CHD) risk, medication adherence, health-related quality of life (HRQol), or economic outcomes.

No limitation regarding language or publication year was imposed. Conference abstracts were not included.

Study Selection

Two reviewers independently screened all titles and abstracts retrieved from the electronic databases using the prespecified inclusion criteria. Then, the full text of each potentially eligible article was obtained and screened independently by 2 reviewers to further assess its suitability for inclusion in this review. Any disagreement was resolved through discussion.

Data Extraction and Synthesis

A single reviewer extracted data from included studies using a standardized form (Microsoft Excel format, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA).²⁴ Subsequently, another reviewer independently checked the data extracted. No blinding regarding the journal or author was done. The data extracted from each study included authors, publication year, study design, setting and country where the study took place, sample size, patient age and gender, follow-up duration, details of pharmacist interventions and usual care, inclusion and exclusion criteria, and study outcomes.

The results for the outcome measures included in this review were summarized as change from baseline to final follow-up in intervention and control groups. When not reported, the difference in change between groups was calculated (change from baseline in the intervention group minus change from baseline in the control group).

In order to facilitate data visualization, bar charts were built for the following outcomes: A1c, blood glucose, blood pressure, and lipid profile. Since it was not feasible to include all studies in these charts, 7 to 9 studies with different follow-up durations and in which various types of interventions were carried out in different countries and health care facilities were selected for each outcome in order to reflect the variability of the studies included in this systematic review. In the process of selecting studies to be included in the charts, priority was also given to studies with larger sample sizes.

Risk of Bias Assessment

Two reviewers independently assessed the risk of bias in included studies using the Cochrane risk of bias tool.²⁵ Given the nature of the interventions studied, participants and the personnel delivering the intervention could not be blinded. Therefore, the criteria relative to blinding of participants and personnel were not considered. So, the risk of bias in each study was assessed according to the following criteria: suitability of random sequence generation, concealment of allocation, blinding of outcome assessors, completeness of outcome data, selective outcome reporting, and other sources of bias. Each risk of bias item was rated as "low risk" if it was unlikely that a bias would seriously alter the results; "unclear" if it was likely that a bias would raise some doubt about the results; or "high risk" if it was likely that a bias would seriously alter the results. Any disagreement was resolved through discussion.

Results

Study Selection

Searching the electronic databases yielded 707 citations (Figure 1). After screening titles and abstracts, 59 citations potentially met the inclusion criteria. Of these, it was not possible to retrieve 4 full-text articles, so they were not included. Five studies were excluded because they were not randomized controlled trials. Two studies were also excluded because the pharmacist interventions were not directed specifically at patients with type 2 diabetes. Another study was also excluded because the outcome data were not reported in sufficient detail. Additionally, 2 duplicate publications, 1 review and 1 study protocol, and 7 conference abstracts were excluded because these types of publication were not suitable for inclusion in this review. In total, 36 studies met the inclusion criteria and were included in this systematic review. Additionally, another 3 study reports, found among the databases search results, were also obtained and used to extract data, since they contained relevant information for this review.

Study Characteristics

Among the included studies, 2 were cluster-randomized controlled trials in which the participating pharmacies were randomly assigned to either the intervention group or the control group.^{26,27} Eleven studies were conducted in North America,²⁸⁻³⁸ 2 in South America,^{39,40} 5 in Europe,^{27,41-44} 1 in Africa,⁴⁵ 15 in Asia,⁴⁶⁻⁶⁰ and 2 in Australia.^{26,61} The settings in which the studies took place included community pharmacies, primary care clinics or health centers, and hospitals. Pharmacist interventions varied across the included studies

and encompassed 1 or more of the following: counseling and education on diabetes, medication, lifestyle modification, and self-monitoring; reinforcement of medication adherence or complications screening; provision of materials such as educational leaflets and pill boxes; medication review; identification and resolution of drug-related problems; discussions with the primary care provider regarding pharmacotherapy; adjustment of pharmacotherapy; and referrals to other health care professionals. Two studies mentioned motivational interviews as a technique used to deliver advice to patients.43,53 In most studies, the control group received usual care from medical and nursing staff and/or community pharmacists, depending on the study setting. In 8 studies, pharmacist interventions were provided to the control group at the end of the study.44,46,47,52,55-57,59 Globally, the included studies involved 5,761 participants. The duration of follow-up ranged from 45 days to 24 months. A detailed description of the characteristics of included studies is presented in Table 1.

Study Risk of Bias

The risk of bias varied among the included 36 studies (Figure 2). In half (50.0%) of the studies, the allocation sequence was sufficiently generated. The allocation sequence was concealed, and outcome assessors were blinded in only a few studies (13.9% and 2.8%, respectively). In most studies (97.3%), there was or might have been a risk of bias because of selective outcome reporting. Only 11 studies (30.6%) reported outcome data completely, and 13 studies (36.1%) were free of other source of bias.

Study Outcomes

Alc and Blood Glucose. Alc was considered as an outcome measure in 26 studies (Table 2). A1c mean value decreased in the intervention group during the follow-up period in all studies, and 24 studies reported a greater improvement in this outcome in the intervention group compared with the control group, some of which are shown in Figure 3A. Of note, in 11 studies, the reduction in A1c in the intervention group was greater than that recorded in the control group by approximately 1% or more.^{28,31,32,35,41,48-50,54,57,60} In another study, Alc mean value decreased in the intervention group by 1.7%, while there was a 0.1% increase in the control group.⁵¹ Nevertheless, 2 studies presented an imbalance between the baseline A1c mean values of both groups.^{54,60} The difference in A1c change from baseline to final follow-up between the intervention group and the control group ranged from -0.18% to -2.1%. Fifteen studies reported a statistically significant difference in change between the 2 groups (Table 2).26-28,31,32,34,35,37-39,42,49,53,60,61 However, in 1 study, there was a significant difference between the baseline A1c mean values of both groups, and the appropriate statistical analysis to adjust for this baseline difference was not conducted.60

TABLE	TABLE 1 Characteristics of Included Studies						
Author, Year	Setting/ Country	No. of Patients (n) ^a Lost to Follow-up (n) Age in Years (Mean [SD]) Gender (%)	Follow-up Duration	Pharmacist Intervention	Control	Outcome Measures	
Adepu et al. 2007 ⁴⁷	Community pharmacies/ India	No. of patients (IG/CG): 35/35 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 3/7 Age (IG/CG): 51.45 [12.27]/53.77 [10.35] Gender (IG/CG): 74.3%/62.9% male	6 months ^b	Counseling on disease, drugs, and lifestyle modification; provision of information leaflet highlighting the disease and lifestyle modifications	Counseling and information leaflets at end of study	Random CBG, KAP regard- ing diabetes, DQoL	
Adepu and Ari 2010 ⁴⁶	Medicine outpatient department at tertiary care teaching hospital/India	No. of patients: 240 Lost to follow-up: 13 Age: 57 Gender: 50.7% male	3 months	Education regarding disease, medica- tion, and lifestyle modification	Education at final follow-up visit	CBG, medication adherence, KAP regarding diabetes	
Adibe et al. 2013 ⁴⁵	Tertiary hospi- tals/ Nigeria	No. of patients (IG/CG): 110/110 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 11/17 Age (IG/CG): 52.4 [7.6]/52.8 [8.2] Gender (IG/CG): 44.6%/40.0% male	12 months	Pharmaceutical care including educa- tion on diabetes, self-monitoring, medication, lifestyle modification, counseling, and effective interaction with health providers	Usual care offered by hospitals	HRQoL, cost-utility analysis ⁶⁶	
Al Mazroui et al. 2009 ⁴⁸	Military hospi- tal outpatient clinic/United Arab Emirates	No. of patients (IG/CG): 120/120 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 3/3 Age (IG/CG): 48.7 [8.2]/49.9 [8.3] Gender (IG/CG): 70.0%/68.3% male	12 months	Pharmaceutical care including discus- sions with PCP regarding drug ther- apy; education on disease and medi- cation; and advice on self-monitoring, physical exercise, diet, medication adherence, and smoking cessation	Usual care from medical and nursing staff	Alc, FBG, SBP, DBP, TC, LDL, HDL, TG, BMI, 10-year CHD risk, medica- tion knowledge, medication adherence, adherence to lifestyle advice, HRQoL	
Ali et al. 2012 ⁴¹	Community pharmacies/ United Kingdom	No. of patients (IG/CG): 25/23 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 2/0 Age (IG/CG): 66.4 [12.7]/66.8 [10.2] Gender (IG/CG): 43.5%/56.5% male	12 months	Pharmaceutical care including medi- cine use review; education regarding diabetes and its complications; and counselling on lifestyle modification with referral to other health care pro- fessional when appropriate	Usual service from general practitio- ner, practice nurse, and community pharmacy	Alc, BG, SBP, DBP, TC, LDL, HDL, TG, BMI, DQoL, HRQoL, diabetes knowledge, SIMS, beliefs about medicines, others	
Chan et al. 2012 ⁴⁹	Diabetes clinic at public hos- pital/ Hong Kong	No. of patients (IG/CG): 51/54 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 0/0 Age (IG/CG): 63.2 [9.5]/61.7 [11.2] Gender (IG/CG): 58.8%/51.9% male	9 months	Pharmaceutical care program address- ing medication adherence, knowledge and beliefs, skills, perceived health and cognitive functions, and identifi- cation of DRPs	Routine medical care	A1c, ^d SBP, DBP, TC, LDL, ^d HDL, TG, BMI, ACR, CHD risk, ^d stroke risk, ^d medica- tion knowledge, ^d medica- tion adherence, ^d cost-effec- tiveness analysis	
Choe et al. 2005 ²⁸	Primary care internal medi- cine clinic/ USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 41/39 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 5/10 Age (IG/CG): 52.2 [11.2]/51.0 [9.0] Gender (IG/CG): 48.8%/46.1% male	24 months	Evaluation and modification of phar- macotherapy; education on diabetes self-management; and reinforcement of diabetes complications screening processes	Regular care, including regular follow-up visits with PCP	Alc, ^d rates of LDL measurement, ^d retinal examination, ^d urine microalbumin screening, monofilament testing for neuropathy, ^d and Alc measurement	
Chung et al. 2014 ⁵⁰	Teaching hos- pital/Malaysia	No. of patients (IG/CG): 120/121 Lost to follow-up: NR Age (IG/CG): 59.7 [9.5]/58.5 [8.3] Gender (IG/CG): 58.3%/53.7% female	12 months	Pharmaceutical care including medi- cation review; resolution of DRPs; and education on diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and medications, emphasizing the importance of medi- cation adherence	Standard pharmacy services	Alc, FBG, medication adherence	
Clifford et al. 2005 ⁶¹	NR/Australia	No. of patients (IG/CG): 99/99 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 7/11 Age (IG/CG): 70.5 [7.1]/70.3 [8.3] Gender (IG/CG): 47.8%/56.8% male	12 months	Pharmaceutical care including coun- seling on medication and lifestyle; provision of educational material; and clinical, biochemical, and medication- related data sent regularly to PCP	Usual care, includ- ing reinforcement of lifestyle issues	A1c, ^d FBG, ^d SBP, ^d DBP, ^d TC, HDL, TG, BMI, ^d ACR, 10-year CHD risk, stroke risk, physical activity, medication use	
Cohen et al. 2011 ²⁹	Veterans Affairs Medical Center/USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 53/50 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 5/2 Age (IG/CG): 69.8 [10.7]/67.2 [9.4] Gender (IG/CG): 100.0%/96.0% male	6 months	Part of a multidisciplinary diabetes specific healthy lifestyle education intervention and behavioral and phar- macologic interventions, including medication changes	Standard primary care	Alc, SBP, ^d LDL, HRQoL, perceived competence, adherence to self-care activities	
Farsaei et al. 2011 ⁵¹	Outpatient clinic/Iran	No. of patients (IG/CG): 87/87 Lost to follow-up: NR Age (IG/CG): 53.4 [9.8]/52.9 [8.5] Gender (IG/CG): 63.2%/68.2% female	3 months	Education on medications, adherence, and self-management and provision of a diabetes dairy log and pill box	Visits to PCP every 3 months	Alc, FBG	
Fornos et al. 2006 ⁴²	Community pharmacies/ Spain	No. of patients (IG/CG): 58/56 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 2/0 Age (IG/CG): 62.4 [10.5]/64.9 [10.9] Gender (IG/CG): 57.1%/57.1% female	13 months	Pharmacotherapy follow-up program consisting of detection and resolution of DRPs and diabetes education	Usual care	Alc, ⁴ FBG, ⁴ SBP, ^d DBP, TC, ⁴ LDL, HDL, TG, ACR, BMI, diabetes and medication knowledge, ⁴ DRPs, ⁴ drug knowledge, ^{4,65} medication adherence ^{4,65}	
Ghosh et al. 2010 ⁵²	Medicine department at medical hospital/India	No. of patients: 22 Lost to follow-up: 4 Age: NR Gender: 72.0% male	45 days	Counseling on disease, medication, lifestyle modification, self-monitoring, and self-care and provision of infor- mation leaflets	Counseling and information leaflets at the end of the study	FBG, PPBG	

TABLE	1 Char	acteristics of Included Studi	es <i>(conti</i> i	nued)		
Author, Year	Setting/ Country	No. of Patients (n) ^a Lost to Follow-up (n) Age in Years (Mean [SD]) Gender (%)	Follow-up Duration	Pharmacist Intervention	Control	Outcome Measures
Grant et al. 2003 ³⁰	Community health center/ USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 118/114 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 8/13 Age (IG/CG): 63.3 [12.7]/64.9 [12.1] Gender (IG/CG): 52.0%/51.0% female	3 months	Assessment of medication use; educa- tion regarding medication; arrange- ments for social services or nutrition consultation; and information forwarded to PCP	NR	Medication adherence, adherence to diet and exercise program, adher- ence barriers, medication discrepancies
Jaber et al. 1996 ³¹	Internal medi- cine outpatient clinic/USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 23/22 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 6/0 Age (IG/CG): 59 [12]/65 [12] Gender (IG/CG): 70.6%/68.2% female	4 months	Pharmaceutical care including edu- cation on diabetes; counseling on medication, instructions on dietary regulation, exercise and home blood glucose monitoring; and evaluation and adjustment of diabetes medication	Standard medical care from PCP	Alc, ^d FBG, SBP, DBP, TC, LDL, HDL, TG, SCr, CrCl, ACR, body weight, HRQoL
Jacobs et al. 2012 ³²	Ambulatory general inter- nal medicine clinic/USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 195/201 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 22/24 Age (IG/CG): 62.7 [10.8]/63.0 [11.2] Gender (IG/CG): 68.0%/55.0% male	12 months	Targeted physical assessment; edu- cation on diabetes; laboratory tests ordering; pharmacotherapy review, modification and monitorization; facilitation of self-monitoring of blood glucose; and reinforcement of dietary guidelines and exercise	Usual care	A1c, ^d SBP, DBP, LDL, BMI, medication use, microvas- cular parameters screening ^d
Jarab et al. 2012 ⁵³	Outpatient diabetes clinic at teaching hospital/ Jordan	No. of patients (IG/CG): 85/86 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 8/7 Age (IG/CG): 63.4 [10.1]/65.3 [9.2] Gender (IG/CG): 42.4%/44.2% female	6 months	Pharmaceutical care including edu- cation on diabetes, medication and lifestyle changes; review of prescribed treatment; referral to a smoking cessa- tion program; and provision of book- let about diabetes medications and lifestyle changes	Usual care from medical and nursing staff	A1c, ^d FBG, ^d SBP, ^d DBP, ^d TC, ^d LDL, ^d HDL, TG, ^d BMI, medication adher- ence, adherence to self-care activities
Kjeldsen et al. 2015 ⁴³	Community pharmacies/ Denmark	No. of patients (IG/CG): 41/125 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 4/23 Age (IG/CG): 63.4 [7.8]/62.1 [10.2] Gender (IG/CG): 59.5%/62.4% male	6 months	Screening for nonadherence; medica- tion review; patient education regard- ing metabolic syndrome; coaching; support to structure and remember medication intake; feedback to PCP; and referral to other health services	NR	BG, SBP, ^d HRQoL, disease knowledge, ^d medication adherence, patient satisfac- tion with service, others
Krass et al. 2007 ²⁶	Community pharmacies/ Australia	No. of patients (IG/CG): 176/159 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 27/19 Age: 62 [11] Gender: 51.0% male	6 months	Diabetes service including review of blood glucose self-monitoring; educa- tion on disease, medication, and life- style; adherence support and detection of DRPs; and referrals to PCP	Usual care	Alc, ^d BG, SBP, DBP, TC, TG, BMI, HRQoL ^d
Mahwi and Obied 2013 ⁵⁴	Diabetic center/Iraq	No. of patients (IG/CG): 65/65 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 3/4 Age (IG/CG): 52.0 [7.86]/53.4 [10.81] Gender (IG/CG): 71.0%/67.2% female	3 months	Pharmaceutical care, including educa- tion sessions	Usual medical care	Alc, FBG, medication adherence, DRPs
Malathy et al. 2011 ⁵⁵	Multispecialty hospitals and diabetic clinic/ India	No. of patients (IG/CG): 137/70 Lost to follow-up: NR Age (IG/CG): 52.07 [9.47]/51.02 [9.83] Gender (IG/CG): 71.5%/ 34.3% female	3 months	Counseling on diabetes and complica- tions, blood glucose control, lifestyle changes and foot care, and provision of information leaflets about diabetes and lifestyle changes	Counseling and information leaflets at end of study	PPBG, TC, LDL, HDL, TG, KAP regarding diabetes
Mehuys et al. 2011 ²⁷	Community pharmacies/ Belgium	No. of patients (IG/CG): 153/135 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 5/3 Age (IG/CG): 63.0/62.3 Gender (IG/CG): 51.0%/53.7% male	24 months ^c	Education on diabetes and its com- plications, medication and healthy lifestyles, facilitation of medication adherence, and reminders about annual eve and foot examinations	Usual pharmacist care	Alc, ^d FBG, medica- tion adherence, diabetes knowledge, ^d adherence to self-care activities ^d
Mourão et al. 2013 ³⁹	Primary health care units/ Brazil	No. of patients (IG/CG): 65/64 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 12/9 Age (IG/CG): 60.0 [10.2]/61.3 [9.9] Gender (IG/CG): 68.0%/66.0% female	6 months	Pharmaceutical care, including identification of DRPs; proposals for pharmacotherapy changes forwarded to PCP; and education on diabetes, nonpharmacological issues, and phar- macological treatments	Usual health care	Alc, ^d FBG, ^d SBP, ^d DBP, TC, ^d LDL, ^d HDL, ^d TG, ^d BMI, medication use, ^d DRPs
Odegard et al. 2005 ³³	Medicine clinics/USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 43/43 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 4/7 Age (IG/CG): 51.6 [11.6]/51.9 [10.4] Gender (IG/CG): 48.0%/38.0% female	12 months	Development and implementation of diabetes care plan and regular com- munication with patient and PCP on patient's diabetes care progress	Normal care from PCP	Alc, medication appro- priateness, medication adherence
Plaster et al. 2012 ⁴⁰	Community health center/ Brazil	No. of patients (IG/CG): 38/36 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 4/7 Age: NR Gender (IG/CG): 70.6%/60.0% female	6 months	Pharmaceutical care program, includ- ing promotion of correct use of medi- cation, provision of educative instruc- tional material about lifestyle modifi- cations, and interaction with PCP	Standard care	FBG, SBP, DBP, TC, LDL, HDL, TG, WC, body weight, 10-year CHD risk, negative outcomes associ- ated with medication
Ramanath and Santhosh 2011 ⁵⁶	General medicine department at tertiary care hospital/India	No. of patients (IG/CG): 57/56 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 5/8 Age: NR Gender (IG/CG): 67.3%/50.0% male	3 months	Educational materials and counseling	Educational materi- als and counseling at last follow-up	FBG, PPBG, medication adherence, KAP regarding diabetes, HRQoL

TABLE	TABLE 1 Characteristics of Included Studies (continued)							
Author, Year	Setting/ Country	No. of Patients (n) ^a Lost to Follow-up (n) Age in Years (Mean [SD]) Gender (%)	Follow-up Duration	Pharmacist Intervention	Control	Outcome Measures		
Rothman et al. 2005 ³⁴	General inter- nal medicine practice/USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 112/105 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 13/10 Age (IG/CG): 54 [13]/57 [11] Gender (IG/CG): 56.0%/56.0% female	12 months	Education, counseling, and medication management	Usual care from PCP	A1c, ^d SBP, ^d DBP, ^d TC, body weight, aspirin and statin use, diabetes knowledge, diabetes treatment satisfac- tion, use of clinical services, adverse events		
Sarkadi and Rosenqvist 2004 ⁺⁺	Community pharmacies/ Sweden	No. of patients (IG/CG): 39/38 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 6/7 Age (IG/CG): 66.4 [7.9]/66.5 [10.7] Gender: NR	24 months	Educational program regarding disease, lifestyle changes, and self- monitoring and provision of educational materials	Educational program at end of study	Alc		
Scott et al. 2006 ³⁵	Community health center/ USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 76/73 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 5/4 Age: NR Gender (IG/CG): 57.9%/64.4% female	9 months	Education on diabetes, medication, lifestyle adjustments, self-monitoring, and self-care; medication review; and pharmacotherapy recommendations made to PCP	Standard diabetes care	Alc, ^d SBP, ^d DBP, LDL, ^d HDL, BMI, body weight, DQoL, aspirin use, influenza vaccination		
Simpson et al. 2011 ³⁶	Primary care clinics/Canada	No. of patients (IG/CG): 131/129 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 21/16 Age (IG/CG): 58.8 [11.1]/59.4 [12.1] Gender (IG/CG): 56.5%/58.1% female	12 months	Medication assessments, limited his- tory and physical examinations, and guideline-concordant recommenda- tions discussed with PCP to optimize medication management	Usual care from primary care team	Alc, SBP, ^d DBP, ^d TC, LDL, HDL, 10-year CHD risk, ^d antihypertensive medica- tion changes, number of health care-related con- tacts, cost-effectiveness analysis ⁶⁷		
Sriram et al. 2011 ⁵⁷	General medicine department at tertiary care teaching hos- pital/India	No. of patients (IG/CG): 60/60 Lost to follow-up: NR Age (IG/CG): 53.65 [2.38]/57.98 [2.62] Gender (IG/CG): 50.0%/50.0% female	8 months ^b	Pharmaceutical care, including educa- tion on diabetes, counseling on medi- cation and lifestyle modification, and provision of an information leaflet, a diabetic diet chart, and a diabetic diary	Pharmaceutical care at end of study	Alc, FBG, BMI, DQoL, satisfaction with diabetes treatment		
Suppapitiporn et al. 2005 ⁵⁸	Endocrine clinic at hospi- tal/Thailand	No. of patients (IG/CG): 180/180 Lost to follow-up: NR Age (IG/CG): 61.4 [10.6]/59.9 [11.5] Gender (IG/CG): 67.2%/64.4% female	6 months	IG divided into 4 groups: all groups received diabetes drug counseling; additionally, 1 group received a diabe- tes booklet, 1 group received special medication containers, and 1 group received both	Conventional treatment	Alc, FBG		
Taveira et al. 2010 ³⁸	Veteran Affairs Medical Center/USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 64/54 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 6/3 Age (IG/CG): 62.2 [10.3]/66.8 [10.2] Gender (IG/CG): 91.4%/100.0% male	4 months	Part of multidisciplinary education intervention regarding self-care behaviors and behavioral and phar- macological interventions, including medication changes	Usual care from PCP	A1c, ^d SBP, DBP, ^d LDL, non-HDL, BMI, tobacco use, adherence to self-care behaviors		
Taveira et al. 2011 ³⁷	Veteran Affairs Medical Center/USA	No. of patients (IG/CG): 44/44 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 0/2 Age (IG/CG): 60.2 [9.3]/61.4 [9.9] Gender (IG/CG): 100.0%/95.5% male	6 months	Part of a multidisciplinary educa- tion intervention regarding self-care behaviors and behavioral and phar- macological interventions, including medication changes	Standard care from PCP	Alc, ^d SBP, LDL, non-HDL, 10-year CHD risk, tobacco use, adherence to self- care behaviors, perceived competence, depression symptoms		
Venkatesan et al. 2012 ⁵⁹	Community pharmacies/ India	No. of patients (IG/CG): 19/20 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 0/NR Age (IG/CG): 51.47 [9.99]/57.05 [12.06] Gender (IG/CG): 57.9%/50.0% female	8 months	Counselling about diabetes, lifestyle modifications, and medication and provision of educational material	Counseling at end of study	FBG, BMI, diabetes care profile, diabetes knowledge		
Wishah et al. 2014 ⁶⁰	Outpatient diabetes clinic at teaching hospital/ Jordan	No. of patients (IG/CG): 52/54 Lost to follow-up (IG/CG): 2/3 Age (IG/CG): 52.9 [9.6]/53.2 [11.2] Gender (IG/CG): 61.5%/51.9% female	6 months	Pharmaceutical care, including opti- mization of drug therapy; education and counseling on diabetes and medi- cation; enhancement of adherence to medication and self-care activities; and provision of educational leaflet and brochures	Usual care from medical and nursing staff	Alc, ^d FBG, ^d TC, LDL, HDL, TG, BMI, diabetes knowl- edge, medication adher- ence, adherence to self-care activities		

^aAllocated to intervention group and control group.

^bStudy duration.

^c24-month follow-up for A1c and FBG; 6-month follow-up for the other outcomes.

^dThe study reported a statistically significant difference in change between groups.

The study reported a statistically significant algebraic in charge between groups. A1c =glycosylated hemoglobin; ACR= albumin-to-creatinine ratio; BG=blood glucose; BMI=body mass index; CBG=capillary blood glucose; CG=control group; CHD=coronary heart disease; CrCl=creatinine clearance; DBP= diastolic blood pressure; DQoL= diabetes quality of life; DRPs=drug-related problems; FBG=fasting blood glucose; HDL=high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; HRQoL=health-related quality of life; IG=intervention group; KAP=knowledge, attitude, and practice; LDL=low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; NR=not reported, PCP=primary care provider; PPBG=postprandial blood glucose; SBP=systolic blood pressure; SCr=serum creatinine; SD=standard deviation; SIMS=satisfaction with information received about medicines; TC=total cholesterol; TG=triglycerides; WC=waist circumference.



Regarding blood glucose, 23 studies reported this parameter as an outcome measure (Table 2). In all studies, there was a decrease in blood glucose (fasting, postprandial, or random) in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up, and 20 studies reported a greater improvement in this outcome in the intervention group when compared with the control group. Nevertheless, the difference in change (ranged from -5.9 mg dL⁻¹ to -66.87 mg dL⁻¹) between both groups was reported as statistically significant in only 5 studies (Table 2).^{39,42,53,60,61} The greater reduction in fasting blood glucose in the intervention group in comparison with the control group is shown in Figure 3B for some studies.

Blood Pressure. Eighteen studies evaluated the change in systolic blood pressure during the course of the study (Table 2). In all of them, there was a reduction in mean systolic blood pressure in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up, and 17 studies reported a greater improvement in this outcome in the intervention group compared with the control group, some of which are shown in Figure 4A. For systolic blood pressure, the difference in change between the groups ranged from -3.3 mmHg to -23.05 mmHg and was shown to be statistically significant in only 9 studies (Table 2).^{29,34-36,39,42,43,53,61} Nevertheless, in 1 of these studies, there was a difference in baseline mean values between the intervention and the control groups, and the appropriate statistical analysis to adjust for this baseline difference was not conducted.³⁹

As for diastolic blood pressure, 15 studies reported data on this outcome (Table 2). In all studies, mean diastolic blood pressure decreased in the intervention group during the followup period, and 14 studies reported a greater reduction in this outcome in the intervention group in comparison with the control group, some of which are shown in Figure 4B. However, only a third of the studies revealed a statistically significant difference in change from baseline to final follow-up between the intervention group and the control group (Table 2).^{34,36,38,53,61} The difference in change between the 2 groups ranged from -0.21 mmHg to -9.1 mmHg.

Lipid Profile. Thirteen studies described total cholesterol as an outcome measure (Table 3). In all of these studies, there was a reduction in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up, and 10 studies reported a greater improvement in this outcome in the intervention group in comparison with the control group. However, the difference in change (ranged from +18.95 mg dL⁻¹ to -32.48 mg dL⁻¹) between the 2 groups was reported as statistically significant in only 3 studies (Table 3).^{39,42,53}

Regarding LDL cholesterol, 15 studies reported data on this outcome, and all of them demonstrated a decrease in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up (Table 3). Twelve studies reported a greater reduction in this outcome in the intervention group compared with the control group. For this parameter, the difference in change between the groups ranged from +7.35 mg dL⁻¹ to -30 mg dL⁻¹ and was reported as statistically significant in only 4 studies (Table 3).^{35,39,49,53}

Among the 12 studies that reported HDL cholesterol as an outcome measure (Table 3), 10 studies described an increase in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up,^{35,36,39-41,48,49,55,60,61} 1 study observed a decrease,⁵³ and in another study this parameter remained constant.⁴² Nine studies reported a greater increase in this outcome in the intervention group when compared with the control group. Nevertheless, the difference in change between both groups was shown to be statistically significant in only 1 study (P=0.020).³⁹ The difference in change between the 2 groups ranged from -5.8 mg dL⁻¹ to +11 mg dL⁻¹.

Finally, 12 studies reported data on triglycerides (Table 3). Eleven of them described a reduction in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up, while in 1 study, there was an increase in the triglycerides mean value.⁴¹ Nine studies

TABLE	2 Studies with I	Results fo	r A1c, Blood Glucose, and B	lood Press	sure		
	A1c (%)		Blood Glucose (mg dL-1)			Blood Pressure (mmHg)	
Author, Year	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a		Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a
Adepu et al. 2007 ⁴⁷	NR	-	Random capillary blood glucose IG: 198.31 to 142 (P<0.001) CG: 173.6 to 171 (P>0.05)	-53.71 ^b		NR	-
Adepu and Ari 2010 ⁴⁶	NR	-	Capillary blood glucose IG: significant decrease (P=0.001) CG: nonsignificant decrease (P=0.798)	-		NR	-
Al Mazroui et al. 2009 ⁴⁸	IG: 8.5 to 6.9 (P<0.001) CG: 8.4 to 8.3 ^b	-1.5 ^b	Fasting blood glucose IG: 194.94 to 140.04 CG: 184.68 to 170.64	-40.86 ^b	SBP DBP	IG: 131.4 to 127.2 (P<0.001) CG: 132.6 to 132.1 ^b IG: 85.2 to 76.3 (P<0.001)	-3.7 ^b
Ali et al. 2012 ⁴¹	IG: 8.2 to 6.6 (<i>P</i> <0.001) CG: 8.1 to 7.5 (<i>P</i> =0.033)	-1.01 ^b	IG: 158.40 to 123.84 (P<0.001) CG: 171.54 to 162.72 (P=0.097)	-25.74 ^b	SBP DBP	CG: 83.9 to 84.1° IG: 146.26 to 126.17 (P<0.001)	-23.05 ^b
Chan et al. 2012 ⁴⁹	IG: 9.7 to 8.13 CG: 9.5 to 9.1	-1.17 (P<0.001)	NR	_	SBP DBP	CG: 85.65 to 81.7 (P=0.090) IG: 141 to 134.5 CG: 138 to 134.8 IG: 75 to 72.2	-3.3 (P=0.34) -2.1
Choe et al. 2005 ²⁸	IG: 10.1 to 8.0	-1.2 (P=0.03)	NR	_		CG: 74 to 73.3 NR	(P=0.23)
Chung et al. 2014 ⁵⁰	IG: 9.6 to 8.2 (P<0.001) CG: 9.5 to 9.3 (P=0.265)	-1.2 ^b	Fasting blood glucose IG: 169.2 to 135.0 (P<0.001) CG: 165.6 to 174.6 (P=0.257)	-43.2 ^b		NR	-
Clifford et al. 2005 ⁶¹	IG: 7.5 to 7.0 CG: 7.1 to 7.1	-0.5 (P=0.002)	Fasting blood glucose IG: 158.4 to 144.0 CG: 145.8 to 153.0	-21.6 (P<0.001)	SBP DBP	IG: 157 to 143 CG: 156 to 149 IG: 77 to 72 CG: 77 to 75	-7 (P=0.024) -3 (P=0.043)
Cohen et al. 2011 ²⁹	IG: 7.8 to 7.39 CG: 8.1 to 7.9	-0.21 (NS) ^b	NR	-	SBP	IG: 136.1 to 126.91 CG: 136.1 to 135.3	-8.39 (Sig.) ^b
Farsaei et al. 2011 ⁵¹	IG: 9.3 to 7.5 (P<0.001) CG: 8.9 to 9.0 (P=0.317)	-1.8 ^b	Fasting blood glucose IG: 176.6 to 145.8 (P<0.001) CG: 170.4 to 165.9 (P=0.528)	-26.3 ^b	NR		-
Fornos et al. 2006 ⁴²	IG: 8.4 to 7.9 (P<0.001) CG: 7.8 to 8.5 (P<0.001)	-1.2 (P<0.001)	Fasting blood glucose IG: 172 to 153 (P<0.001) CG: 160 to 168 (P=0.042)	-27 (P<0.001)	SBP DBP	IG: 143 to 135 (P<0.001) CG: 148 to 150 (P=0.577) IG: 80.2 to 78.2 (P=0.050) CG: 82.2 to 82.1 (P=0.686)	-10 (P<0.001) -1.9 (NS) ^b
Ghosh et al. 2010 ⁵²	NR	_	Fasting blood glucose IG: 227 to 180 (P<0.05) CG: 227 to 195 ^b Postprandial blood glucose IG: 291 to 194 (P<0.01) CG: 201 to 220 ^b	-15 ^b -35 ^b		NR	-
Jaber et al. 1996 ³¹	IG: 11.5 to 9.2 (<i>P</i> =0.015) CG: 12.2 to 12.1 ^b	-2.1 (P=0.021)	Fasting blood glucose IG: 199.8 to 153.0 (P=0.003) CG: 228.6 to 198.0 ^b	-14.4 (NS) ^b	SBP DBP	IG: 147 to 140 (P=0.07) CG: NR IG: 88 to 82 (P=0.07) CG: NR	_
Jacobs et al. 2012 ³²	IG: 9.5 to 7.7 CG: 9.2 to 8.4	-1.0 (P<0.05)	NR	_	SBP DBP	IG: 142.5 to 132.5 CG: 134.8 to 135.4 IG: 79.4 to 72.0	-10.6 ^b
Jarab et al. 2012 ⁵³	IG: 8.5 to 7.7 CG: 8.4 to 8.5	-0.9 (P=0.019)	Fasting blood glucose IG: 225.0 to 183.6 CG: 210.6 to 226.8	-57.6 (P=0.014)	SBP DBP	CG: 78.3 to 77.6 IG: 132 to 126.2 CG: 134 to 135.1 IG: 85 to 77.9	-6.7° -6.9 (P=0.035) -8.9 (D=2.225)
Kjeldsen et al. 2015 ⁴³	NR	_	IG: nonsignificant decrease CG: NR	_	SBP	CG: 85 to 86.8 IG: 138 to 131.3 CG: 139 to 137.6	(P=0.026) -5.3 (P=0.02)
Krass et al. 2007 ²⁶	IG: 8.9 to 7.9 CG: 8.3 to 8.0	-0.7 (P<0.01)	IG: 169.2 to 153.0 (P<0.001) CG: NR	-	SBP DBP	IG: 135 to 133 CG: 133 to 135 IG: 79 to 77 CG: 77 to 76	-4.8 (P=0.06) -1.1 (P=0.52)

TABLE	2 Studies with I	Results fo	r A1c, Blood Glucose, and	Blood Press	sure (continued)			
	A1c (%)		Blood Glucose (mg dL	1)		Blood Pressure (mmHg)			
Author. Year	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a		Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a		
Mahwi and Obied 2013 ⁵⁴	IG: 11.53 to 9.2 (P<0.001) CG: 9.97 to 9.5 (P=0.341)	-1.86 ^b	Fasting blood glucose IG: 249.4 to 196.4 (P=0.001) CG: 211.1 to 195.4 (P=0.196)	-37.3 ^b		NR	-		
Malathy et al. 2011 ⁵⁵	NR	-	Postprandial blood glucose IG: 237.0 to 204.47 (P<0.001) CG: 229.17 to 211.4 ^b	-14.76 ^b		NR	-		
Mehuys et al. 2011 ²⁷	IG: 7.7 to 7.1 (P<0.001) ^c CG: 7.3 to 7.2 (P=0.162) ^c	-0.5 (P=0.009)	Fasting blood glucose ^c IG: 154.1 to 138.8 (P<0.001) CG: 153.9 to 145.8 (P=0.004)	-5.9 (P=0.193)		NR	-		
Mourão et al. 2013 ³⁹	IG: 9.9 to 9.3 CG: 9.5 to 10.2	-1.3 (P=0.001)	Fasting blood glucose IG: 177.7 to 156.3 CG: 174.4 to 187.8	-34.8 (P=0.007)	SBP DBP	IG: 152.9 to 140.8 CG: 140.4 to 137.5 IG: 85.1 to 82.1 CG: 82.9 to 80.4	-9.2 (P=0.013) -0.5 (P=0.809)		
Odegard et al. 2005 ³³	IG: 10.2 to 8.2 CG: 10.6 to NR	 (P=0.61)	NR	-		NR	-		
Plaster et al. 2012 ⁴⁰	NR	-	Fasting blood glucose IG: 198 to 130 (P<0.01) CG: 181 to 173 ^b	-60 ^b	SBP DBP	IG: 138 to 131 CG: 138 to 141 IG: 80 to 78	-10 ^b		
Ramanath and Santhosh 2011 ⁵⁶	NR	_	Fasting blood glucose IG: 151.13 to 132.50 CG: 138.50 to 146.21 Postprandial blood glucose IG: 219.69 to 178.87 CG: 200.42 to 201.19	-26.34 ^b -41.59 ^b		CG: 80 to 81 NR	_		
Rothman et al. 2005 ³⁴	IG: 11.0 to 8.5 CG: 11.0 to 9.4	-0.8 (P=0.05)	NR	-	SBP DBP	IG: 140 to 133 CG: 137 to 139 IG: 82 to 78 CG: 80 to 81	-9 (P=0.008) -5 (P=0.02)		
Sarkadi and Rosenqvist 2004 ⁴⁴	IG: decreased significantly by 0.4% CG: increased nonsignificantly	_	NR	_		NR	-		
Scott et al. 2006 ³⁵	IG: 8.8 to 7.08 (P=0.003) CG: 8.7 to 8.0 (P<0.05)	-1.0 (P<0.05)	NR	-	SBP DBP	IG: 130.0 to 126.6 CG: 130.7 to 132.8 IG: 79.3 to 75.9	-5.5 (P=0.023) -2.0 ^b		
Simpson et al. 2011 ³⁶	IG: 7.5 to 7.35 CG: 7.3 to 7.33	-0.18 (NS) ^b	NR	_	SBP DBP	G: 79.6 to 78.2 IG: 130.4 to 123.0 (P<0.001) G: 128.3 to 125.8 (P=0.06) IG: 74.4 to 72.1 (P<0.05) G: 73.0 to 74.5 th	-4.9 (P=0.01) -2.9		
Sriram et al. 2011 ⁵⁷	IG: 8.44 to 6.73 (P<0.01) CG: 9.03 to 8.31 (P>0.05)	-0.99 ^b	Fasting blood glucose IG: 195.57 to 107.25 (P<0.01) CG: 186.00 to 149.57 (P>0.05)	-51.89 ^b		NR	-		
Suppapitiporn et al. 2005 ⁵⁸	IG: 8.16 to 7.91 CG: 8.01 to 8.80	-1.04 ^b	Fasting blood glucose IG: 152.36 to 145.20 CG: 150.16 to 159.16	-16.16 ^b		NR	-		
Taveira et al. 2010 ³⁸	IG: 8.1 to 7.2 (P<0.05) CG: 7.9 to 7.9 ^b	-0.9	NR	_	SBP	IG: 131.1 to 123.8 (P<0.05) CG: 137.2 to 135.5 ^b	-5.6 (NS) ^b		
Tanaina et el	IC. 9.2 to 7.4 (D. 0.05)	(P<0.05)			DBP	IG: 74.4 to 67.9 (P<0.05) CG: 74.2 to 75.2 ^b	-7.5 (P<0.05)		
2011 ³⁷	CG: 8.5 to 8.4 ^b	-0.9 (P<0.05)	NR	-	SBP	CG: 125.2 to 127.0 ^b	-8.9 (NS) ^b		
Venkatesan et al. 2012 ⁵⁹	NR	-	Fasting blood glucose IG: 155.58 to 108.10 CG: 150.30 to 169.70	-66.87 ^b		NR	-		
Wishah et al. 2014 ⁶⁰	IG: 8.9 to 7.2 CG: 8.2 to 7.9	-1.4 (P<0.05)	Fasting blood glucose IG: 180.2 to 126.9 CG: 159.6 to 158.0	-51.4 (P<0.05)		NR	-		

^aNegative values indicate IG had greater decrease; positive values indicate CG had greater decrease.

^bP value not reported.

^cOver the 6-month follow-up period.

A1c=glycosylated hemoglobin; CG=control group; DBP=diastolic blood pressure; IG=intervention group; NR=not reported; NS=not significant; SBP=systolic blood pressure; Sig.=significant.



FIGURE 3 Effect of Pharmacist Interventions on A1c and Fasting Blood Glucose Compared with Control Group

reported a greater improvement in this outcome in the intervention group in comparison with the control group. Yet, the difference in change between the 2 groups was reported as statistically significant in only 2 studies (Table 3).^{39,53} This difference ranged from +12 mg dL⁻¹ to -62 mg dL⁻¹.

For all 4 parameters of the lipid profile, the greater improvement observed in the intervention group compared with the control group is shown in Figure 5A-D for some studies.

Body Mass Index. Fourteen studies described BMI as an outcome measure (Table 3). In all but 2 studies, mean BMI decreased in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up. These studies also reported a greater reduction in this group in comparison with the control group.^{26,35,38,41,42,48,49,53,57,59-61} Nevertheless, only 1 study revealed a statistically significant difference in change between the intervention group and the control group (P=0.005).⁶¹ The difference in change between the 2 groups ranged from +0.4 kg m⁻² to -2.77 kg m⁻².

10-Year CHD Risk. CHD risk was predicted among study participants in 6 studies (Table 3). The method used to estimate this risk varied between studies. Three studies used the United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study (UKPDS) risk engine,^{36,37,61} 1 study used the Framingham prediction method,⁴⁰ 1 study used the British National Formulary prediction charts and the Framingham prediction method,⁴⁸ and 1 study used an equation specifically validated for the Hong Kong population.⁴⁹ All 4 models incorporated the variables age, sex, and smoking status.^{49,62-64} The equation validated

for the Hong Kong population also includes the duration of diabetes,⁴⁹ while the Framingham prediction model considers the presence or absence of diabetes as a variable.63 In addition to the duration of diabetes, the UKPDS risk engine also incorporates the A1c mean values.⁶² Regarding blood pressure, the UKPDS risk engine and the British National Formulary prediction charts include systolic blood pressure,62,64 while the Framingham prediction model integrates systolic and diastolic blood pressure.63 As for the lipid profile, the UKPDS risk engine and the British National Formulary prediction charts consider the total cholesterol/HDL cholesterol ratio as a variable,^{62,64} while the Framingham prediction model only includes HDL cholesterol,63 and the equation validated for the Hong Kong population incorporates non-HDL cholesterol.⁴⁹ In addition to the previously mentioned variables, the UKPDS risk engine also considers ethnicity as a variable,⁶² and the equation validated for the Hong Kong population integrates glomerular filtration rate and urinary albumin to creatinine ratio.49

All 6 studies recorded a decrease in CHD risk in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up and reported a greater improvement in this group compared with the control group. In the 3 studies that used the UKPDS risk engine, the 10-year CHD risk decreased 4.8%, 2.7%, and 4.9%, respectively, in the intervention group during the follow-up period. In the 2 studies that used the Framingham prediction method, there was a decrease of 2.9% and 8.0%, respectively, in the intervention group, the follow-up period. In comparison with the control group, the difference in change



between the 2 groups was reported as statistically significant in only 2 studies (Table 3).^{36,49} Because the studies used different methods to assess this risk, it is not possible to define a range for the difference in change between the groups across all studies. However, among the studies that used the UKPDS risk engine, the difference in change between the groups ranged from -1.5% to -5.1%, and in the 2 studies that used the Framingham prediction method, this difference was -3.0% and -12.0%, respectively.

Medication Adherence. Medication adherence was evaluated in 13 studies (Table 4). The methods used to measure this outcome among study participants varied between studies. Self-reported adherence was used as the only method in almost all studies, while 2 studies used pill count or prescription refill rate in combination with self-reported adherence.^{27,54}

Eleven studies revealed an improvement in medication adherence in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up. In 2 studies that used the same method for the assessment of medication adherence (Morisky Medication Adherence Scale), the proportion of nonadherent patients decreased 45.5% and 58.4%, respectively, in the intervention group during the follow-up period.^{53,54} In 8 studies, a greater improvement in medication adherence was observed in the intervention group when compared with the control group, but only 2 studies reported a statistically significant difference (Table 4).^{49,65} Given the wide variability of methods used to measure this outcome

and because of the difference in detail of the reported data, it is not possible to define a range for the difference in change between the groups across all studies.

Health-Related Quality of Life. Eleven studies considered HRQoL as an outcome measure (Table 4). Various tools were used to assess this outcome. Seven studies used generic tools (e.g., the 36-Item Short Form Health Survey and the EuroQoL-5 Dimension questionnaire), which can be applied in different health conditions and diseases.^{26,29,31,43,45,48,56} Three studies used tools specifically developed for diabetes (e.g., the Audit of Diabetes-Dependent Quality of Life questionnaire and the Diabetes Quality of Life questionnaire),^{35,47,57} and 1 study used generic and diabetes-specific tools.⁴¹

Most studies reported an improvement in HRQoL (overall or subdomain scores) in the intervention group from baseline to final follow-up, which was greater than that observed in the control group. In the studies that used the EuroQoL-5 Dimension questionnaire to assess HRQoL among study patients, the effect was mixed. There was an improvement of 0.06 in the intervention group during the follow-up period in 1 study,⁴³ while there was a decrease of 0.04 in the other study.²⁶ Only 1 study reported a statistically significant difference in change between the intervention group and the control group (P=0.02).²⁶ Because of the wide variability of tools used to assess this outcome and because of the difference in detail in reporting overall or subdomains scores, it is not possible to

TABLE	∃ 3	Studies with Results fo	r Lipid Pı	rofile, Body Mass Index,	and 10-1	ear CHD Risk		
		Lipid Profile (mg dL ⁻¹)		Body Mass Index (kg m	Body Mass Index (kg m ⁻²) 10-Year CHD Risk			
Author, Year	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up		Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	
Al Mazroui et al. 2009 ⁴⁸	TC LDL	IG: 203.40 to 172.85 CG: 203.79 to 205.72 IG: 137.28 to 117.56	-32.48 ^b -24.75 ^b			Framingham risk prediction score IG: 10.6% to 7.7% (<i>P</i> <0.001) CG: 11.4% to 11.5% (<i>P</i> >0.05)	-3.0% ^b	
	HDL	CG: 134.57 to 139.60 IG: 46.40 to 51.04 (P<0.05)	4.25 ^b	IG: 28.34 to 27.29 (P<0.005) CG: 27.98 to 27.99 (P>0.05)	-1.06 ^b	BNF risk prediction (% of patients at low risk) IG: 63.3% to 85.5%	28.2% ^{b,c}	
Ali et al.	TC	IG: 141.71 to 110.71 CG: 137.28 to 154.11 IG: 160.48 to 159.32 (P=0.811)	-47.83" 18.95 ^b			CG: 65.0% to 59.0%		
201241	LDL	CG: 141.53 to 121.42 (P<0.001) IG: 90.87 to 76.18 (P=0.009)	7.35 ^b	IC 20.04 - 26.00 (D. 0.021)				
	HDL	IG: 46.02 to $56.46 (P=0.001)$ CG: 46.40 to $48.34 (P=0.575)$	8.12 ^b	CG: 29.82 to 28.73 (P =0.059)	-2.77 ^b	NR	-	
Chan at al	TG	IG: 119.57 to 134.63 (P=0.140) CG: 127.54 to 157.65 (P=0.940)	-15.05 ^b					
2012 ⁴⁹	LDL	IG: 170.15 to 155.07 CG: 182.14 to 179.43 IG: 101.32 to 87.39	-12.37 (P=0.08) -12.76			Score obtained from a validated CHD risk equation for Hong Kong population IG: 2.16 to 2.05 CG: 2.17 to 2.17		
	HDL	CG: 107.12 to 105.96 IG: 42.15 to 42.304 CG: 44.47 to 44.548	(P=0.026) 0.078 (P=0.93)	IG: 25.2 to 25.04 CG: 26.2 to 26.27	-0.23 (P=0.24)		-0.11 (P<0.001)	
TG		IG: 154.11 to 134.63 CG: 168.28 to 148.80	0.00 (P=0.99)					
Clifford et al. 2005 ⁶¹	TC HDI	IG: 193.4 to 181.7 CG: 189.5 to 181.7 IG: 46.02 to 47.18	-3.9 (P=0.14)	IG: 30.0 to 29.4	-0.7	UKPDS risk engine score	-5.1% ^b	
	TG	CG: 46.02 to 45.24 IG: 150.6 to 97.4	(P=0.07) -53.1	CG: 30.0 to 30.1	(P=0.005)	IG: 25.1% to 20.3% (P=0.002) CG: 26.1% to 26.4% (P=0.17)		
Cohen et al. 2011 ²⁹	LDL	CG: 141.7 to 141.7 IG: 96.1 to 86.7 CG: 110.7 to 99.17	(P=0.09) 2.13 (NS) ^b	NR	NR		_	
Fornos et al. 2006 ⁴²	TC	IG: 222 to 202 (P<0.001) CG: 218 to 217 (P=0.716)	-19 (P=0.0054)		-0.6 (NS) ^b			
	HDL	IG: 141 to 126 (P<0.001) CG: 136 to 133 (P=0.488) IG: 48.5 to 48.5 (P=0.981)	-12 (NS) ^b 0.2	IG: 31.0 to 30.1 (P=0.018) CG: 31.7 to 31.4 (P=0.650)		NR	-	
	TG	CG: 49.9 to 49.7 (P=0.887) IG: 167 to 138 (P=0.181) CG: 168 to 171 (P=0.230)	(NS) ^b -32 (NS) ^b					
Jaber et al. 1996 ³¹	1	No significant changes within or between IG and CG	-	NR	_	NR	-	
Jacobs et al. 2012^{32}	LDL	IG: 121.5 to 93.7 CG: 115.1 to 105.1	-17.8b	IG: 32.8 to 33.2 CG: 31.8 to 31.6	0.6 ^b	NR	-	
Jarab et al. 2012 ⁵³	LDL	IG: 181.7 to 154.7 CG: 181.7 to 185.6 IG: 81.2 to 58.0	-30.9 (P=0.040) -23.2					
	HDL	CG: 85.1 to 85.1 IG: 50.3 to 44.5	(P=0.031) -5.8	IG: 32.4 to 31.9 CG: 32.8 to 33.2	-0.9 (P=0.189)	NR	-	
	TG	CG: 50.3 to 50.3 IG: 168.3 to 124.0 CG: 177.1 to 194.9	(P=0.728) -62.0 (P=0.017)					
Krass et al. 2007 ²⁶	TC	IG: 189.5 to 181.7 CG: 189.5 to 181.7	0.0 (P=0.85)	IG: 31.4 to 31.1	-0.2	NR	_	
Malathy et al.	TG TC	IG: 177.1 to 159.4 CG: 159.4 to 150.6 IG: 206.2 to 185.7 (P<0.00J)	-17.7 (P=0.39) -9.2 ^b	CG: 31.3 to 31.1	(P=0.37)			
201155	LDL	CG: 202.8 to 191.5 (P<0.05) IG: 141.12 to 120.9 (P<0.001)	-9.16 ^b					
	HDL	CG: 138.26 to 127.2 (P<0.01) IG: 34.9 to 36.6 (P<0.05)	1.0 ^b	NR	_	NR	_	
	TG	IG: 150.9 to 140.6 (P<0.001) CG: 155.7 to 148.5 ^b	-3.1 ^b					

TABLE	∃ 3	Studies with Results for	or Lipid Pr	ofile, Body Mass Index,	and 10-Y	ear CHD Risk (continued)	
		Lipid Profile (mg dL-1)		Body Mass Index (kg n	1 ⁻²)	10-Year CHD Risk	
Author, Year	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up		Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a
Mourão et al. 2013 ³⁹	TC LDL HDL	IG: 216.3 to 189.3 CG: 207.5 to 207.8 IG: 128.9 to 105.9 CG: 123.0 to 123.5 IG: 51.8 to 53.5 CG: 53.4 to 50.6	$\begin{array}{c} -27.3 \\ (P = 0.008) \\ -23.5 \\ (P = 0.026) \\ 4.5 \\ (P = 0.020) \end{array}$	IG: 30.3 to 30.4 CG: 30.3 to 30.0	0.4 (<i>P</i> =0.106)	NR	_
	TG	IG: 171.2 to 152.2 CG: 162.4 to 177.4	-34.0 (P=0.007)				
Plaster et al. 2012 ⁴⁰	LDL	IG: 205 to 182 (P<0.01) CG: 209 to 210 ^b IG: 149 to 111 (P<0.01) CG: 140 to 132 ^b	-24 ^b -30 ^b			Framingham risk prediction score	
	Men HDL Women HDL TG	IG: 40 to 47 ($P < 0.05$) CG: 44 to 40 ^b IG: 42 to 49 ($P < 0.05$) CG: 45 to 41 ^b IG: 186 to 165 CG: 207 to 174	11 ^b 11 ^b 12 ^b	NR	-	IG: 22% to 14% (P<0.01) CG: 22% to 26% (P<0.05)	-12% ^b
Rothman et al.	TC	IG: 213 to 186	-15 (NS)b	NR	-	NR	_
Scott et al. 2006 ³⁵	LDL HDL	IG: 116.1 to 96.7 CG: 120.5 to 112.3 IG: 41.3 to 42.9 CG: 41.5 to 42.4	-11.2 (P=0.012) 0.7 ^b	IG: 36.4 to 36.0 CG: 35.9 to 35.7	-0.2 ^b	NR	-
Simpson et al. 2011 ³⁶	TC LDL HDL TG	IG: 170.53 to 161.64 (P<0.05) CG: 168.99 to 165.51 ^b IG: 93.58 to 84.69 (P<0.05) CG: 93.19 to 89.33 ^b IG: 44.47 to 44.86 CG: 44.47 to 45.24 IG: 168.28 to 160.31 CG: 154.11 to 162.08	-5.41 (NS) ^b -5.41 (NS) ^b -0.77 (NS) ^b -15.94 (NS) ^b	NR	_	UKPDS risk engine score IG: 19.5% to 16.8% (P<0.001) CG: 21.0% to 19.8% (P=0.06)	-1.5% (P=0.005)
Sriram et al. 2011 ⁵⁷		NR	-	IG: 25.01 to 23.16 (P<0.05) CG: 24.66 to 24.75 (P>0.05)	-1.94 ^b	NR	-
Taveira et al. 2010 ³⁸	LDL Non- HDL	IG: 92.8 to 81.5 (P<0.05) CG: 92.8 to 85.0 (P<0.05) IG: 133.1 to 113.8 (P<0.05) CG: 125.3 to 119.7 ^b	-3.5 (NS) ^b -13.7 (NS) ^b	IG: 33.8 to 33.73 CG: 31.7 to 31.71	-0.08 (P=0.11)	NR	_
Taveira et al. 2011 ³⁷	LDL Non- HDL	IG: 101.0 to 92.5 (<i>P</i> <0.05) CG: 101.5 to 93.9 ^b IG: 137.8 to 126.6 (<i>P</i> <0.05) CG: 149.6 to 133.9 (<i>P</i> <0.05)	-1.0 (NS) ^b 4.5 (NS) ^b	NR	-	UKPDS risk engine score IG: 20.6% to 15.7% (P<0.05) CG: 22.7% to 20.4% ^b	-2.6% (NS) ^b
Venkatesan et al. 2012 ⁵⁹		NR	-	IG: 25.09 to 22.99 CG: 25.81 to 24.38	-0.67 ^b	NR	-
Wishah et al. 2014 ⁶⁰	TC LDL HDL	IG: 184.6 to 165.2 -7 CG: 185.5 to 173.6 -7 IL IG: 114.2 to 100.9 -9 CG: 109.3 to 105.3 -7		IG: 31.1 to 30.6 CG: 29.3 to 29.8	-1.0 (P=0.11)	NR	_
	TG	IG: 209.8 to 169.5	-37.0 ^b				

"Negative values indicate IG had greater decrease; positive values indicate CG had greater decrease. For HDL: positive values indicate IG had greater increase; negative values indicate CG had greater increase.

^bP value not reported.

Positive values indicate IG had greater decrease in 10-year CHD risk; negative values indicate CG had greater decrease in 10-year CHD risk.

BNF = British National Formulary; CG = control group; CHD = coronary heart disease; HDL = high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; IG = intervention group; LDL = low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; NR = not reported; NS = not significant; TC = total cholesterol; IG = triglycerides; UKPDS = United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study.

Effect of Pharmacist Interventions on Total Cholesterol, Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol,



Change in high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (mg dL-1) from baseline to final follow-up NR = P value not reported; NS = not statistically significant.

FIGURE 5

define a range for the difference in change between the groups across all studies. However, in the 2 studies that used the EuroQoL-5 Dimension questionnaire, the difference in change between both groups was 0.057 and -0.02, respectively.

Economic Outcomes. Three studies conducted an economic analysis. Chan et al. (2012) estimated the cost-effectiveness of the pharmacist care program being studied based on CHD risk reduction and the direct cost of time spent by the pharmacist in counseling and associated administrative work.⁴⁹ The estimated potential saving in costs was \$5,086.30 USD per patient.49 Adibe et al. (2013) conducted a cost-utility analysis of the pharmaceutical care intervention implemented.⁶⁶ The total cost per patient per year was \$326.00 USD for the control group and \$394.00 USD for the intervention group (P=0.1009).66 In

Change in triglycerides (mg dL-1)

from baseline to final follow-up

TABLE 4	Studies with Results for Medication A	dherence	e and Health-Related Quality of Life	
	Medication Adherence		Health-Related Quality of Life	
Author, Year	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a
Adepu et al. 2007 ⁴⁷	NR	-	ADDQoL score IG: significant improvement (P<0.001) CG: nonsignificant change ^b	-
Adepu and Ari 2010 ⁴⁶	Brief medication questionnaire score IG: 0.73 to 0.88 (P<0.001) CG: 1.11 to 0.67 (P=0.021)	0.59 ^b	NR	-
Adibe et al. 2013 ⁴⁵	NR	-	HUI3 total score IG: 0.61 to 0.86 CG: 0.63 to 0.64	0.22 ^b
Al Mazroui et al. 2009 ⁴⁸	Proportion of nonadherent patients ^c IG: 48.3% to 21.4% CG: 49.1% to 32.5%	-10.3% ^{b,d}	Improvement in all SF-36 domains in IG, for example: general health score IG: 67.8 to 77.6 CG: 66.6 to 69.2	7.2 ^b
Ali et al. 2012 ⁴¹	NR	_	SF-36 total score IG: 65.61 to 79.09 (P<0.001) CG: 70.04 to 66.53 (P=0.145) DQ0L total score IG: 29.81 to 23.48 (P=0.001) CG: 30.52 to 27.87 (P=0.323)	17.63 ^b -3.68 ^{b,e}
Chan et al. 2012 ⁴⁹	Proportion of doses taken IG: 73.6% to 96.1% CG: 82.1% to 84.1%	20.5% (P<0.001)	NR	-
Chung et al. 2014 ⁵⁰	Malaysian medication adherence scale ^f IG: 70.0% to 75.0% CG: 64.5% to 58.7%	10.8% ^b	NR	-
Cohen et al. 2011 ²⁹	NR	-	SF-36 score No significant changes in either physical health mental health domains in IG	3.6 ^b -0.3 ^b
Fornos et al. 2006 ⁶⁵	Modification of the Morisky-Green questionnaire ^g IG: 0.6 to 0.2 (P<0.001) CG: 0.8 to 0.9 (P=0.195)	-0.5 ^d (P<0.001)	NR	-
Grant et al. 2003 ³⁰	No. of adherent days out of the past 7 days IG: 6.7 to 6.8 CG: 6.9 to 7.0	0.0 (P=0.8)	NR	-
Jaber et al. 1996 ³¹	NR	-	Health status questionnaire score No significant changes in any domain within or between IG and CG	-
Jarab et al. 2012 ⁵³	Morisky Medication Adherence Scale ^h IG: 74.1% to 28.6% CG: 70.9% to 64.6%	-39.2% ^{b,d}	NR	-
Kjeldsen et al. 2015 ⁴³	Three self-reported adherence measures: Behavior-related nonadherence (nonintentional) ^h IG: 68.3% to NR CG: 61.1% to NR Behavior-related nonadherence (intentional, self-regulation) ^h IG: 22.5% to NR CG: 26.8% to NR Behavior-related nonadherence (intentional, effect-related) ^h IG: 19.5% to NR CG: 16.5% to NR No significant changes within or between IG and CG	_	EQ-5D total score IG: 0.782 to 0.842 CG: 0.812 to 0.815	0.057 ^b
Krass et al. 2007 ²⁶	NR	_	EQ-5D score: Utility score IG: 0.8 to 0.8 CG: 0.8 to 0.8 Health state scale score IG: 66.3 to 71.6 CG: 72.2 to 73.3	-0.02 (P=0.07) 4.2 (P=0.02)
Mahwi and Obied 2013 ⁵⁴	Pill count and Morisky Medication Adherence Scale ^{k,i} IG: 77.4% to 19.0% (P<0.05) CG: NR	-	NR	-
Mehuys et al. 2011 ²⁷	Prescription refill rate ¹ IG: 99.7% CG: 94.7% Self-reported adherence ^{1,k} IG: 59.9% to 61.9% CG: 64.2% to 61.0%	5.2% ^b	NR	-

TABLE 4	Studies with Results for Medication	Adherence	e and Health-Related Quality of Life (continue	ed)		
	Medication Adherence		Health-Related Quality of Life			
Author, Year	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a	Change from Baseline to Final Follow-up	Difference in Change Between Groups ^a		
Odegard et al. 2005 ³³	Self-reported adherence (2-question recall technique) ¹ IG: 56% to NR CG: 35% to NR The intervention had no effect on improving adherence during the study period. CG reported better adherence throughout the study.	-	NR	_		
Ramanath and Santhosh 2011 ⁵⁶	Morisky Medication Adherence Scale IG: significant improvement CG: nonsignificant improvement	-	WHOQOL-BREF total score IG: 39.58 to 43.57 (P<0.05) CG: 40.78 to 37.38 ^b	7.39 ^b		
Scott et al. 2006 ³⁵	NR	-	DQoL total score IG: 262.0 to 286.4 CG: 232.5 to 247.3	9.6 ^b		
Sriram et al. 2011 ⁵⁷	NR	_	ADDQoL total score IG: -2.156 to -1.410 (P<0.01) CG: -1.899 to -1.974 (P>0.05)	0.821 ^b		
Wishah et al. 2014 ⁶⁰	Morisky Medication Adherence Scale score IG: 12.7 to 15.8 CG: 13.6 to 12.9	3.8 ^b	NR	-		

^aPositive values indicate IG had greater increase; negative values indicate CG had greater increase.

^bP value not reported.

Patients who reported forgetting doses and intentionally missing or taking extra doses were classified as nonadherent.

^dNegative values indicate IG had greater increase in medication adherence; positive values indicate CG had greater increase in medication adherence.

^eNegative values indicate IG had greater increase in HRQol; positive values indicate CG had greater increase in HRQoL.

Proportion of adherent patients.

^gNumber of wrong answers per diabetes medication.

^hProportion of nonadherent patients.

ⁱData regarding Morisky Medication Adherence Scale only.

^jAdherence during the study course.

*Assessed by asking patients "How often do you not take your oral hypoglycaemic medication as prescribed?"

¹Proportion of patients having difficulty in remembering to take medications as prescribed.

ADDQoL= audit of diabetes-dependent quality of life; CG=control group; DQoL= diabetes quality of life; EQ-5D=EuroQoL-5 dimension; HUI3=Health Utilities Index Mark 3;

IG=intervention group; NR=not reported; SF-36=Short Form 36; WHOQOL-BREF=World Health Organization Quality of Life-BREF.

addition, quality-adjusted life-year (QALY) per patient per year was 0.64 for the control group and 0.76 for the intervention group (P < 0.0001).⁶⁶ Thus, the authors found that the intervention led to an incremental cost of \$69.00 USD and an incremental effect of 0.12 QALY gained, with an associated incremental cost-utility ratio of \$571.00 USD per QALY gained, which showed that the intervention was very cost-effective.⁶⁶ Simpson et al. (2015) also conducted a cost-effectiveness analysis for the pharmacist intervention being studied.⁶⁷ The authors found that the total cost per patient per year was \$190.00 Canadian Dollars (CAD; \$144.02 USD) lower in the intervention group compared with the control group and that the intervention group had a 0.26% greater reduction in the annualized risk of cardiovascular event in comparison with the control group.⁶⁷ The cost-effectiveness analysis showed that at a societal willingness-to-pay of \$4,000.00 CAD (\$3,025.95 USD) per 1% reduction in annual cardiovascular risk, the probability that the intervention was cost-effective compared with usual care reached 95%.67

Discussion

This systematic review examined randomized controlled trials evaluating the effectiveness of pharmacist interventions in the management of patients with type 2 diabetes. It included 36 studies involving 5,761 participants. The studies were conducted in various countries and took place in different health care facilities.

Evidence from the included studies suggests that pharmacist interventions directed at patients with type 2 diabetes can have a positive impact on clinical outcomes, as demonstrated by the reduction in A1c, blood glucose, blood pressure, and BMI and by the improvement in the lipid profile observed in the intervention group during the follow-up period in almost all studies. When compared with the control group, the effect of pharmacist interventions on these outcomes was shown to be greater in the intervention group in most studies, some of which demonstrated that this difference in change between both groups was statistically significant. The failure to reach a statistically significant difference in all studies may be explained by several factors, such as small sample size, short follow-up duration, cross-contamination between patients in the intervention group and those in the control group, difference in the statistical tests used to perform the statistical analysis (paired-samples or independent-samples tests), and presence of a statistical difference between the baseline values of both study groups.

Metabolic Control

Our findings are in accordance with those of other systematic reviews on the effectiveness of pharmacist interventions in the management of diabetes. Wubben et al. (2008) showed that in 15 out of 18 studies there was a greater improvement in A1c in the intervention group compared with the control group and the difference in change between both groups ranged from +0.2 to -2.1%²¹—this range is almost identical to the range defined for A1c in the present review. Regarding blood pressure, the systematic review conducted by Santschi et al. (2012) revealed that in comparison with the control group, 7 out of 12 (58.3%) studies demonstrated a statistically significant greater reduction in systolic blood pressure in the intervention group, and 3 out of 9 (33.3%) studies reported a statistically significant greater decrease in diastolic blood pressure²⁰—these proportions are also similar to those found in the present review. As for lipid profiles, Wubben et al. reported that most studies found decreases in LDL cholesterol and triglycerides but did not find statistically significant differences in change between the intervention group and the control group,²¹ which is in accordance with what is reported in the present review.

Cardiovascular Control

The effects verified in some of the clinical outcomes previously mentioned might, in turn, have contributed to a decrease in the 10-year CHD risk, since the models used to assess this risk incorporate some of these outcomes as variables (e.g., systolic blood pressure and LDL cholesterol). In fact, in the studies that estimated the 10-year CHD risk, the decrease observed in the intervention group during the follow-up period was accompanied by an improvement in those outcomes that were analyzed in this systematic review and that are also considered as variables in the different risk assessment models. However, the evidence regarding this long-term outcome is limited by the small number of studies that predicted this risk among study participants. This was also noted in another systematic review evaluating the effects of pharmacist interventions on patients with diabetes, in which only 1 out of 21 studies estimated this outcome.21

The positive effects detected in some cardiovascular risk factors, such as those observed in blood pressure and lipid profile in the intervention group in several studies, are of great importance because cardiovascular disease is about twice more frequent in diabetic patients compared with people without diabetes, and its presence is associated with increased mortality, as revealed in a meta-analysis conducted by the Emerging Risk Factors Collaboration group (2010).68 Also important is the beneficial effect of pharmacist interventions on A1c and blood glucose seen in many studies, given that improving glycemic control is a key strategy to reduce the risk of microvascular complications associated with diabetes.8 Also concerning A1c, the difference in its decrease of 1% or greater between the intervention group and the control group observed in several studies is clinically relevant. Indeed, it was previously demonstrated by Stratton et al. (2000) that a 1% A1c reduction is linked to an estimated 14% reduction of the risk of myocardial infarction, an estimated 12% reduction of the risk of stroke, and an estimated 16% reduction of the risk of heart failure.¹ Thus, the improvement observed in Alc in the intervention group in some studies may also contribute to the prevention of macrovascular complications.

Adherence and HRQol

Regarding medication adherence, in most of the included studies, the direction of the effect was in favor of the pharmacist interventions, which is similar to what was found in 2 previously published systematic reviews that analyzed the effect of pharmacist interventions on this outcome.^{22,23} These findings suggest that pharmacists, through their interventions, may play an essential role in enhancing adherence to prescribed medications among patients with type 2 diabetes, which, in turn, may have a beneficial effect on treatment outcomes. In fact, in some studies that evaluated this outcome, the increase in medication adherence observed in the intervention group during the follow-up period was accompanied by an improvement in other outcomes, such as A1c, blood pressure, and lipid profile. However, it should be borne in mind that the method most frequently used to measure this outcome (self-reported adherence) might overestimate adherence.69,70

As for HRQoL, most of the included studies demonstrated an improvement in overall or subdomain scores among the patients of the intervention groups. The lack of significant improvements observed in some studies might be because there is no tool for measuring quality of life that is specifically designed for use in pharmaceutical care, and the existing tools might not have enough sensitivity to detect the subtle changes on HRQoL that may result from pharmaceutical care.⁷¹ Compared with a previous systematic review evaluating the effectiveness of pharmacist interventions in type 2 diabetes that also included HRQoL as an outcome measure, the findings from the present review are more powerful, since it included 11 studies that reported data on this outcome, while the other review only included 1 study,²³ which is among our included studies.

Cost-effectiveness

The evidence regarding the cost-effectiveness of pharmacist interventions was limited. In fact, only 3 studies conducted an economic analysis. This is in accordance with the findings from the other 2 systematic reviews that evaluated the effects of pharmacist interventions on patients with diabetes, in which a small proportion of studies (2 out of 21 studies and 1 out of 8 studies, respectively) assessed the cost-effectiveness of the interventions under study.^{21,23} However, given the current resource restraints in the health care systems, and in order to inform policymakers and influence their decisions towards widespread implementation of pharmacist interventions on the management of type 2 diabetes, cost-utility studies proving the cost-effectiveness of such interventions are of the utmost importance. Indeed, a comprehensive evaluation of pharmaceutical services has to consider clinical and humanistic outcomes, as well as economic outcomes (ECHO approach).72

The pharmacist interventions being studied encompassed a variety of activities related to nonpharmacological and pharmacological issues, such as education on lifestyle modification and medication review. The type of interventions delivered by the pharmacists in each study reflects in part the difference in roles played by pharmacists within the health care systems in different countries. Because pharmacist interventions in the included studies comprised different elements, it is difficult to pinpoint which elements contributed the most for the observed effects. Thus, further research is needed to compare the effect of the different intervention elements on outcome measures in order to identify the most effective and practical approach.

Limitations

This review presents some limitations that are discussed as follows. First, some included studies did not report their outcome data in sufficient detail so that the data could be used in our data synthesis, and the respective authors were not contacted in an attempt to obtain the missing data. However, in order to prevent this from happening in future systematic reviews, study authors should prepare their publications according to reporting guidelines, such as the Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) Statement.73 Second, this review included studies that took place in different settings and that evaluated the effectiveness of different types of interventions, which increased the level of heterogeneity of the results. Third, the evidence regarding some of the outcomes under study was limited by the small number of included studies that reported them (e.g., 10-year CHD risk and economic outcomes). Fourth, for some outcomes, such as medication adherence and HRQoL, the included studies used several tools for assessment, which prevented us from directly comparing the effect of pharmacist

interventions on these outcomes across all studies. Fifth, since the method most frequently used to ascertain medication adherence was self-reported adherence, there might have been an overestimation of the effect of pharmacist interventions on this outcome. Therefore, future studies should consider the use of more accurate methods in the assessment of medication adherence (e.g., drug assays of blood or urine), in order to provide more precise evidence regarding the effectiveness of pharmacist intervention on this outcome among patients with type 2 diabetes.

Finally, although, overall, the findings from this review are encouraging, it should be borne in mind that the included studies presented some weaknesses concerning methodological quality, as assessed by the Cochrane risk of bias tool. Of note, some types of risk of bias (e.g., allocation concealment and blinding of outcome assessment) were classified as "unclear" in a large proportion of studies, given that there was no sufficient information in the publications to classify them precisely. Thus, future studies should take this limitation into consideration and provide information that is as complete and detailed as possible in their publications, so that their risk of bias can be assessed more accurately.

Conclusions

This systematic review provides evidence that pharmacist interventions can have a positive influence on metabolic control, medication adherence, and HRQol of patients with type 2 diabetes. These promising findings support the involvement of pharmacists as members of a health care team in the management of this patient population.

A considerable amount of data has been gathered in this review concerning various outcomes, which may make it possible to conduct a meta-analysis in the near future, by selecting data on some outcomes from a more homogeneous subset of studies included in this review.

Future studies evaluating the effectiveness of pharmacist interventions in the management of type 2 diabetes should include clinical, humanistic, and economic outcomes. Additionally, when assessing some particular outcomes (e.g., medication adherence) among study participants, studies should preferably use the most accurate methods in order to provide more reliable evidence regarding the effect of the intervention being studied on those outcomes.

Further research is also needed to evaluate which intervention elements contribute the most for the observed effects. It would also be of great value to concentrate efforts on building standard, well-validated tools to ascertain certain outcomes, such as HRQoL, so that data from different studies concerning these outcomes can be analyzed together.

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APPENDIX Search Strategy
PubMed
1. Diabetes mellitus, type 2[mh] (87.255)
2. Type 2 diabetes (113.885)
3. T2DM (7.760)
4. Non insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (106.016)
5. NIDDM (96.382)
6. 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 (125.207)
7. Pharmaceutical services[mh] (50.073)
8. Pharmaceutical care (69.689)
9. Clinical pharmacy (44.165)
10. Community pharmacy (15.465)
11. Pharmacist* (25.127)
12. 7 OR 8 OR 9 OR 10 OR 11 (124.573)
13. Randomized controlled trial[pt] (380.924)
14. Random* AND Control* (663.250)
15. 13 OR 14 (663.264)
16. 6 AND 12 AND 15 (278)
Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials
1. [mh "Diabetes mellitus, type 2"] (9.054)
2. Type 2 diabetes (19.141)
3. T2DM (1.225)
4. Non insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (5.281)
5. NIDDM (1.093)
6. 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 (20.135)
7. [mh "Pharmaceutical services"] (1.322)
8. Pharmaceutical care (3.551)
9. Clinical pharmacy (7.797)
10. Community pharmacy (1.336)
11. Pharmacist* (2.709)
12. 7 OK 8 OK 9 OK 10 OK 11 (12.439)
15: 6 AND 12 (254)
web of science
1. $ts = type 2 \text{ diabetes } (551.052)$
2. ts=12DM (19.32T)
5. ts – Non insum dependent diabetes mentus (29.057)
5 + (0 - 0) +
6. ts = Pharmaceutical services (23.487)
7 ts=Pharmaceutical care (39 352)
8. ts=Clinical pharmacy (19468)
9. ts = Community pharmacy (15.019)
10. ts = Pharmacist* (57.991)
11. 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9 OR 10 (118 778)
12. $ts = (Random^* AND Control^*) (1.260.847)$
13. 5 AND 11 AND 12 (175)