

Table 3 Association between disease- and therapy-related factors and non-adherence to hypertensive medication

Disease and therapy- related variables	Non-adherence		Adherence		$\chi^2$	P-value
	No.	%	No.	%		
<b>Hypertension duration<sup>b</sup> (years)</b>						
≥ 2	26	45.6	31	54.4	0.51	0.91
≤ 2	98	48.3	105	51.7		
<b>Having other disease(s) (comorbidity)</b>						
Yes	60	49.2	62	50.8	1.2	0.27
No	54	42.2	74	57.8		
<b>Have symptoms of high blood pressure<sup>c</sup></b>						
Yes	66	46.2	77	53.8	0.04	0.84
No	48	44.9	59	55.1		
<b>No. of hospital admissions</b>						
≤ 1	92	43.0	122	57.0	4.08	0.04
> 1	22	61.1	14	38.9		
<b>Blood pressure</b>						
Controlled	70	44.0	89	56.0	0.44	0.51
Uncontrolled	44	48.3	47	51.6		
<b>No. of medications taken for hypertension</b>						
1	33	37.5	55	62.5	3.8	0.05
≥ 2	81	50.3	80	49.7		
<b>Medication perceived as effective</b>						
Yes	12	85.7	2	14.3	4.89	0.03*
No	98	55.4	79	44.6		
<b>Side-effects</b>						
Yes	14	60.9	9	39.1	0.12	0.73
No	96	57.1	72	42.9		
<b>Cost of medication (AED)</b>						
≤ 600	68	38.9	107	61.1	10.7	< 0.001
> 600	46	61.3	29	38.7		
<b>Use traditional/alternative therapies</b>						
Yes	56	73.7	20	26.3	12.9	< 0.001
No	54	47.4	60	52.6		

\*Fisher exact test.

<sup>b</sup>Time elapsed since first started antihypertensive medication; <sup>c</sup>Symptoms such as headache

AED = Arab Emirati derham.