Pharmacist program can improve IFN-beta adherence in MS

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Cheong noted that only one patient was non-adherent. There was an increase in patient knowledge scores, from a mean baseline score of 20.14 to 31.67 (P

"We are encouraged by the high degree of patient adherence to treatment observed in this program and the improvements observed in the [patients](#)' knowledge of RRMS and INF-?," Cheong writes. "We look forward to conducting future studies using controlled groups to establish the effect of such a program on patient treatment adherence and to establish the link between patient knowledge and treatment adherence."

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

(HealthDay)—A pharmacist medication adherence program can improve adherence to interferon-beta (IFN-?) among patients with relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS), according to a letter to the editor published online May 2 in the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*.

Wing Loong Cheong, M.Pharm., M.B.A., from Monash University in Subang Jaya, Malaysia, describes a pharmacist medication [adherence](#) program for patients with RRMS using INF-?, established in order to improve [patient adherence](#) to treatment and provide education on RRMS and INF-?. Patients with RRMS newly prescribed IFN-? therapy were enrolled, and received three scheduled monthly appointments with pharmacists, at which, health education was provided. Pharmacists conducted assessments of adherence to IFN-?, [knowledge](#), and symptoms and disability experienced at the initial enrollment and during each visit. Twenty-seven patients were enrolled into the 26-month program.

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