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ADHERENCE TO ASTHMA THERAPY AMONG U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL: EVALUATING ADHERENCE WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY RANK (C1). Zachery Halford. Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI (zachery.halford@amedd.army.mil) IRB approval pending.

Medication adherence in patients suffering from chronic disorders is a common problem. Less than half of patients with asthma properly adhere to their medication regimen. Studies suggest that various socioeconomic variables influence medication adherence. The military health care system offers a unique environment in which to test this hypothesis because one's socioeconomic status is roughly equitable to their military rank. Secondly, medical care, to include prescriptions, is free and readily accessible thus controlling for two key variables. The purpose of this study is to quantify adherence to Advair (fluticasone/salmeterol) for the treatment of asthma among members of the US Armed Forces and to determine if military rank correlates with a divergence in medication adherence. This retrospective chart review evaluates medication adherence for military members utilizing fluticasone/salmeterol over one year. Adherence rates will be determined using the medication possession ratio (MPR). Endpoints include relative adherence rates between the enlisted military members and officers. Subgroup analyses will evaluate adherence among various age stratifications, medication strengths, and between junior enlisted members, senior enlisted members, junior officers, and senior officers.

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