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ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN INAPPROPRIATE DIGOXIN USE AND ALL-CAUSE HOSPITALIZATION (A3), Kathryn S. Voll, Jessina C. McGregor, Harleen Singh, Portland Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Portland, OR (kathryn.voll2@va.gov) IRB approval pending.

Renal insufficiency and electrolyte disturbances can predispose patients to digoxin toxicity. Also, digoxin has a narrow therapeutic range and therefore toxicity can be observed at relatively low doses. The objective of this retrospective cohort study is to identify predictors of inappropriate use of digoxin and its associated outcomes. The study will include 250 veteran patients with a documented diagnosis of heart failure and digoxin use between January 2006 and August 2008 who are not on dialysis. The appropriateness of digoxin therapy will be assessed upon initiation. Potential risk factors for inappropriate digoxin use to be evaluated will include potassium levels, renal function, serum digoxin concentrations, and patient comorbidities. The risk of 30 day hospitalization will be compared between patients receiving appropriate and inappropriate digoxin. Descriptive statistics, chi-squared tests, t-tests, and logistic regression will be used to analyze the collected data. Results and conclusions will be discussed and presented.