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Do out-of-pocket costs affect medication adherence in adults with rheumatoid arthritis? A systematic review

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PII: S0049-0172(17)30495-X  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.semarthrit.2017.12.010>  
Reference: YSARH51288

To appear in: *Seminars in Arthritis and Rheumatism*

Cite this article as: Parvaneh Heidari, Wendy Cross and Kimberley Crawford, Do out-of-pocket costs affect medication adherence in adults with rheumatoid arthritis? A systematic review, *Seminars in Arthritis and Rheumatism*, doi:10.1016/j.semarthrit.2017.12.010

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**Article title:** Do out-of-pocket costs affect medication adherence in adults with rheumatoid arthritis? A systematic review.

**Article type:** Systematic review

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**Abstract**

**Introduction:** Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a chronic inflammatory disease that often requires long term treatment with multiple medications. However, medication nonadherence can be a major problem in patients with RA, and with the introduction of biologic agents this issue may intensify due to the high costs of these medications.

**Objective:** This systematic review aimed to determine whether out-of-pocket (OOP) costs affect medication adherence in adults with RA.

**Methods:** Twelve databases were searched to identify primary peer-reviewed articles, written in English from inception to April 2016 that referred to the relationship between medication adherence and OOP costs. The CASP check list was used to assess the quality rating of the included studies.

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