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Prevalence of hypertension among patients aged 50 and older living with human immunodeficiency virus

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Abstract

Background: Hypertension is one of the common medical conditions observed among patients aged 50 years and elder living with HIV (EPLWH) and to date no systematic review has estimated its global prevalence.

Purpose: To conduct a systematic review to estimate the global prevalence of hypertension among EPLWH.

Data Sources: PubMed/MEDLINE, Embase, the Cochrane Library, and Global Health databases for relevant publications up till May 25, 2018.

Study Selection: Observational studies (cohort or cross-sectional studies) that estimated the prevalence of hypertension among EPLWH.

Data Extraction: Required data were extracted independently by three reviewers and the main outcome was hypertension prevalence among EPLWH.

Data Synthesis: The 24 (n = 29,987) eligible studies included were conducted in North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. A low level bias threat to the estimated hypertension prevalence rates was observed. The global prevalence of hypertension among EPLWH was estimated at 42.0% (95% CI 29.6%–55.4%), I^2 = 100%. The subgroup analysis showed that North America has the highest prevalence of hypertension 50.2% (95% CI 29.2% –71.2%) followed by Europe 37.8% (95% CI 30.7%–45.7%) sub-Saharan Africa 31.9% (95% CI 18.5% –49.2%) and Asia 31.0% (95% CI 26.1%–36.3%). We found the mean age of the participants explaining a considerable part of variation in hypertension prevalence.

Conclusion: This study demonstrated that two out of five EPLWH are hypertensive. North America appears to have the highest prevalence of hypertension followed by Europe, sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and Asia respectively. Findings from this study can be utilized to integrate hypertension management to HIV management package. (Registration number: CRD42018103069)

Abbreviations: AIDS = acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, ART = advent of antiretroviral therapy , CI = confidence interval, DBP = diastolic blood pressure, EPLWH = elderly people living with HIV, HANA = HIV associated non-AIDS conditions , HIV = human immunodeficiency virus, PRISMA = Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses, PROSPERO = International Prospective Register of Systematic Reviews, SBP = systolic blood pressure, SSA = Sub-Saharan Africa.

Keywords: elderly, HIV, hypertension prevalence

1. Introduction

Following the advent of antiretroviral therapy (ART), survival of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infected patients has improved dramatically due to decline in progression of the disease to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and HIV-related deaths.[1–4] As ART coverage and retention of HIV infected patients on treatment increase, more HIV infected patients are attaining geriatric age.[5] However, as life expectancy of HIV infected patients is improving, studies have revealed important health implications of HIV infection and ART among middle-aged and older adults. Previous studies have shown that HIV infection and use of ART can potentiate early onset of geriatric syndrome.[6,7]

In addition, it has been reported that this newly aging population of HIV infected patients are experiencing early onset of diseases that are seen in older population of people who are not infected with the virus. For example studies have revealed that HIV infected patients who are on ART were at higher risk of having HIV associated non-AIDS conditions (HANA) such as hepatic, renal, pulmonary, cancers, bone, neurological, metabolic and cardiovascular diseases.[8–15] Of all these co-morbid conditions, cardiovascular disease is the most important cause of deaths among HANA

conditions and its major underlying risk factor is hypertension.[16] Cardiovascular disease occurs more and earlier in HIV-infected patients than HIV-uninfected patients because of their exposure to HIV and ART. It is believed that HIV-induced immune activation and/or ART-associated dyslipidemia facilitate early onset of cardiovascular disease in HIV-infected patients.[17]

With the emergence of cardiovascular diseases, it is clinically relevant to restructure HIV management to allow the integration of cardiovascular diseases management into HIV management package. It will be challenging to carry out this integration without having adequate information on the prevalence of hypertension among HIV-infected patients. Although few systematic review studies have been conducted to estimate the prevalence of hypertension among HIV-infected patients,[18–20] none of these studies estimated the prevalence of hypertension among elderly with HIV despite the strong synergy between HIV and aging. Thus, it is the aim of this study to estimate the prevalence of hypertension among elderly people living with HIV (EPLWH) infection. This will serve as important information for HIV program planning and implementation.

2. Methods

The study protocol for this systematic review was developed based on the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines.[21] Detailed information on the study rationale and methods were pre-specified in the protocol registered in the International Prospective Register of Systematic Reviews (PROSPERO) with an identification number CRD42018103069.

2.1. Data sources and searches

We followed standard guidelines for integrating existing systematic reviews into new reviews.[22,23] Existing systematic reviews on the prevalence of hypertension in people living with HIV were used as a starting point to identify relevant studies and searches were updated accordingly. We searched PubMed/ MEDLINE, Embase, the Cochrane Library, and Global Health databases for relevant publications up till May 25, 2018, using keywords related to HIV and hypertension. In addition, abstract presentations in HIV/AIDS and infectious diseases conferences were searched. Also, reference lists of identified publications were checked for additional relevant articles. The search was performed without restriction based on geographic location and language. However, the update search was limited by year of publication (January 2015 to May 25, 2018).

2.2. Eligibility criteria

We evaluated each identified study against the following predefined selection criteria:

2.3. Participants/population

Elderly population, aged 50 years and above living with HIV/ AIDS.

2.4. Exposure(s)

Treatment naïve or on any ART and whether on antihypertensive medications, statin or aspirin or not.

2.5. Comparator(s)

Not applicable.

2.6. Outcome

Essential hypertension (also called primary or idiopathic hypertension), defined as persistent systolic blood pressure

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Table 1

Overall characteristics of included studies.

First author (year)	Publication year	Study design	Study period	Study location	Sample size	Mean age	Percent male	Diagnosis
Bryant et al (2015)	2015	Cross-sectional	No report	United States	79	59	68	MED
Greene et al (2014)	2014	Longitudinal	2008–2010	United States	89	63	94	MED
Hasse et al (2015)	2015	Longitudinal	2009–2011	Switzerland	3230	50	81	BP/MED
Metallidis et al (2013)	2013	Longitudinal	1998–2008	Greece	103	57.7	80.6	MR
Parikh et al (2015)	2015	Cross-sectional	2011	United States	150	52	88	MR
Patel et al (2013)	2013	Cross-sectional	2011	United States	454	51	71	MR
Tongma et al (2013)	2013	Cross-sectional	No report	United States	111	52	86	MR
Wu et al (2014)	2014	Cross-sectional	2013	Taiwan	310	58.8	84.5	BP
Balderson et al (2013)	2013	Cross-sectional	No report	United States	452	55.8	72	Self-report
Flexor et al (2013)	2013	Longitudinal	2004	France	149	65.4	77	BP/MED
Mothe et al (2009)	2009	Cross-sectional	2007	Spain	179	76	70	BP/MED
Onen et al (2010)	2010	Longitudinal	2006	United States	122	55.8	83	BP
Njelekela et al (2016)	2016	Cross-sectional	No report	Tanzania	3,317	50	No report	BP
Van Zoest et at. (2017)	2107	Longitudinal	2010–2012	Netherlands	528	53	89	BP
Fontela et al (2018)	2018	Cross-sectional	2016	Spain	329	54	71	MR
Friedman et al (2016)	2016	Longitudinal	2006–2009	United States	24,735	71.1	58.3	MR
Van Zoest et at. (2016)	2016	Longitudinal	2010–2012	Netherlands	527	52.9	88.6	BP
Calcagno et al (2017)	2017	Cross-sectional	2015–2016	Italy	1,092	71.3	82.5	BP
Manne-Goehler et al (2017)	2017	Longitudinal	2014–2015	South Africa	1,035	55.4	55.6	BP
Kooij et al (2016)	2016	Longitudinal	2010–2012	Netherlands	556	52.7	71.5	BP
Domingues et al (2017)	2017	Longitudinal	2013–2014	Spain	42	57.5	92.9	BP
Hanna et al (2016)	2016	Longitudinal	2006–2014	United States	1,636	50	0	BP
Patel et al (2015)	2015	Cross-sectional	2008–2010	United Kingdom	299	59	94.6	Self-report
Miller et al (2015)	2015	Longitudinal	1984–2003	United States	453	52	100	MED

Methods of hypertension diagnosis: BP–average blood pressure >140/90 mm Hg, MED—self-reported use of antihypertensive medication, MR—from medical records.

(SBP) of ≥140 mm Hg and/or had diastolic blood pressure (DBP) ≥90mm Hg regardless of age and sex or hypertension deducible from the use of antihypertensive drugs or self-reported physician-diagnosed cases. We excluded studies that included subjects with pregnancy-induced hypertension, pre-eclampsia, malignant, portal, pulmonary, renal, intracranial, or ocular hypertension.

2.7. Study selection

Three authors (GAK, OAU, and PD) independently assessed the titles and abstracts of the publications found by our literature search based on the eligibility criteria that we pre-specified in the study protocol. All disagreements were resolved by evaluating the whole article. We only included observational studies that estimated the prevalence of hypertension among elderly people with HIV.

2.8. Data extraction and quality assessment

Data were extracted from all the selected publications by three authors independently (GAK, TA, and PD). Information on first author, study design, period of data collection, study location, use of ART, sample size, average age of the participants, prevalence of hypertension, and diagnosis of hypertension were obtained. All discrepancies during data extraction were resolved by consensus after discussion. We assessed the quality of the selected studies using the critical appraisal tool for evaluating the qualities of papers included in systematic reviews addressing questions of prevalence.[24] The quality of articles included in the analysis were assessed for the risk of bias in 7 domains: representative sample, participants recruitment, adequate sample size, appropriate description of participants and setting, data completeness/nonresponse, unbiased outcome assessment, and appropriate statistical analysis. We reported risk of bias in each domain as low risk, high risk, or unclear.

2.9. Data synthesis and analysis

For the meta-analysis, we first stabilise the raw prevalence of estimate from each study using the logit transformation proportion suitable for pooling and then pooled the prevalence estimates using the DerSimonian–Laird random effects model.[25] We performed leave-one-study-out sensitivity analysis to determine the stability of the results. This analysis evaluated the influence of individual studies by estimating the pooled hypertension prevalence in the absence of each study.[26] We assessed the heterogeneity among studies by inspecting the forest plots and using the chi-squared test for heterogeneity with a 10% level of statistical significance, and using the I^2 statistic where we interpreted a value of 50% as moderate heterogeneity.[27,28] We assessed the possibility of publication bias by evaluating a funnel plot for asymmetry. Because graphical evaluation can be subjective, we also conducted Egger's regression asymmetry test[29] as formal statistical test for publication bias.

Furthermore, we explored the effect of study-level factors on the overall pooled hypertension prevalence estimates using subgroup and meta-regression analyses: publication year, study design (cross-sectional or longitudinal study), study region (North America, Europe, Africa, or Asia), sample size, mean age, and percentage male. Univariable random-effects logistic regression analysis was conducted to investigate the impact of study-level factors (listed above) on the pooled hypertension prevalence. Univariable random-effects logistic regression
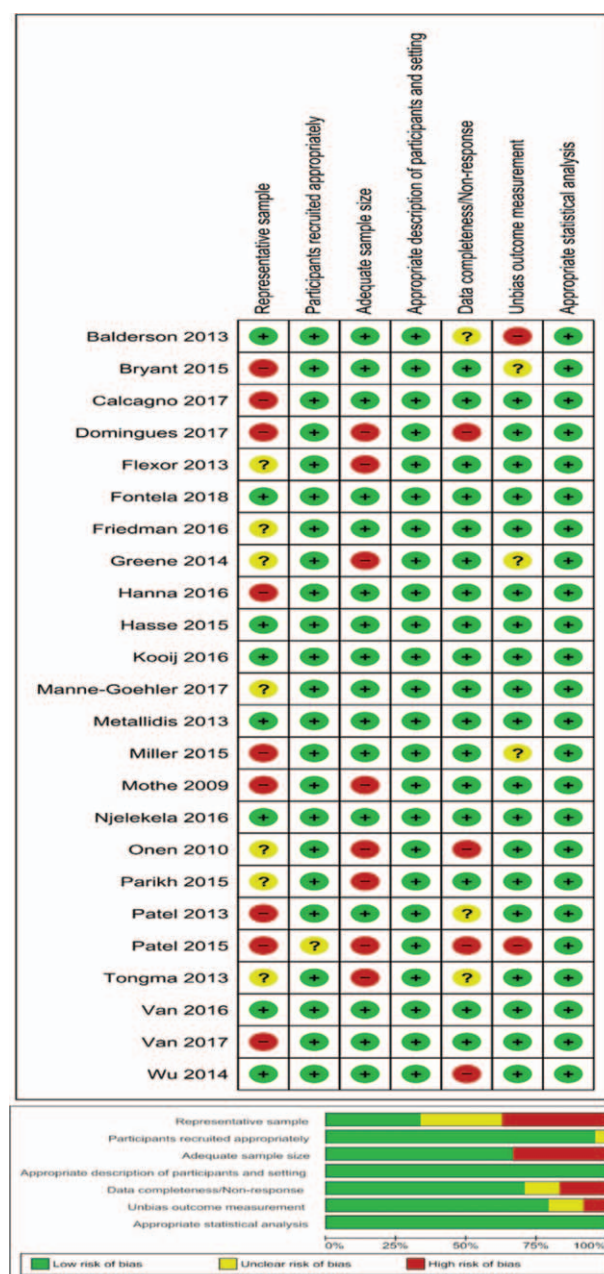
Figure 1. Risk of bias assessment of included studies.

analyses were used to investigate the bivariate relationship between each study-level factor and prevalence of hypertension estimates. Meta-analysis results were reported as combined hypertension prevalence with 95% confidence intervals (CIs), while meta-regression results were reported as odds ratio with 95% CIs. All P-values were exact and P-values <.05 were considered statistically significant. Analyses were conducted using Stata version 14 for Windows (Stata Corp, College Station, Texas). This systematic review was reported according to the PRISMA guideline.[21,30]

2.10. Role of the funding source

No funding was received to conduct this study

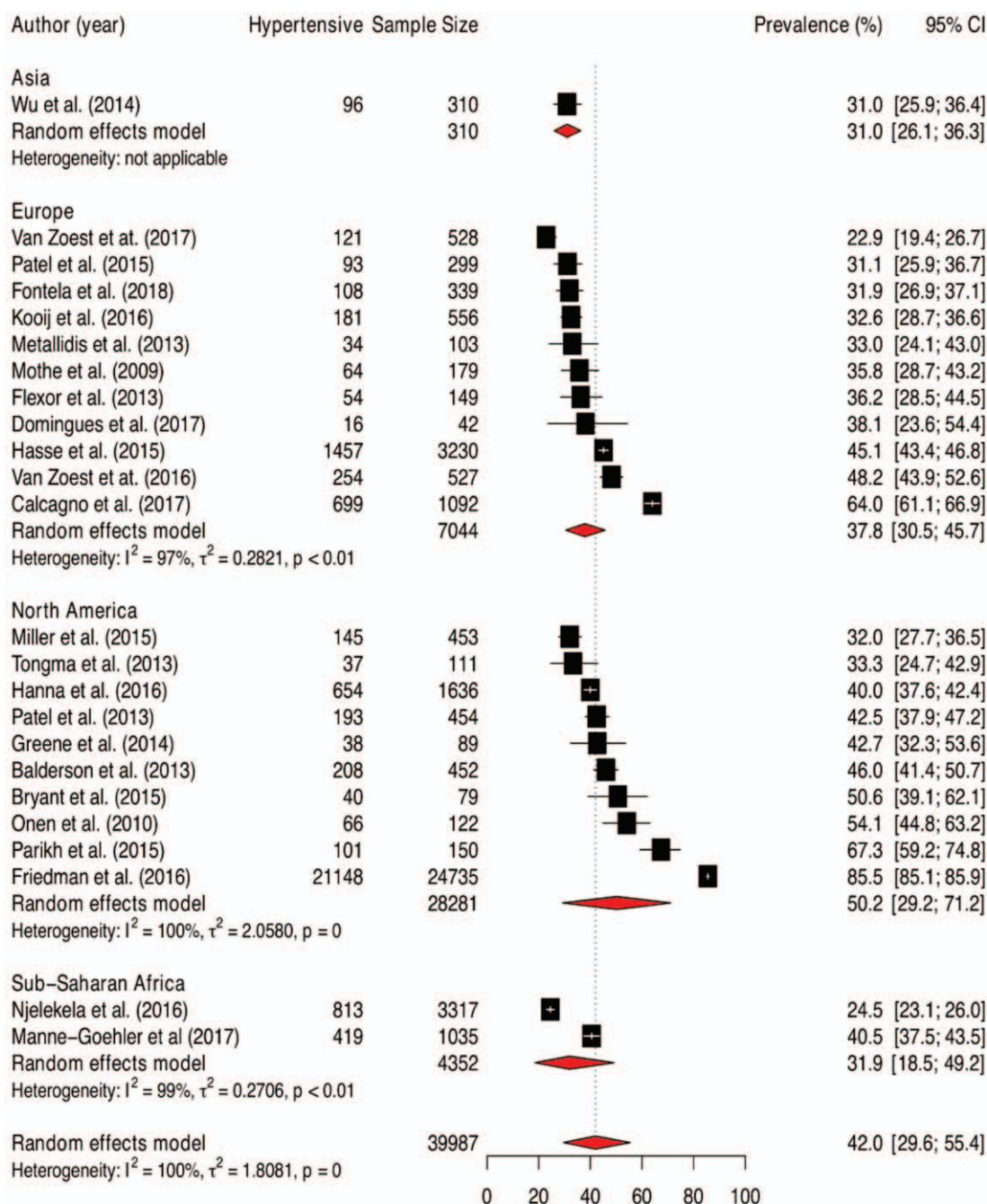| Author (year)	Hypertensive	Sample Size	Prevalence (%)	95% CI
Asia				
Wu et al. (2014)	96	310	31.0	[25.9; 36.4]
Random effects model		310	31.0	[26.1; 36.3]
Heterogeneity: not applicable				
Europe				
Van Zoest et at. (2017)	121	528	22.9	[19.4; 26.7]
Patel et al. (2015)	93	299	31.1	[25.9; 36.7]
Fontela et al. (2018)	108	339	31.9	[26.9; 37.1]
Kooij et al. (2016)	181	556	32.6	[28.7; 36.6]
Metallidis et al. (2013)	34	103	33.0	[24.1; 43.0]
Mothe et al. (2009)	64	179	35.8	[28.7; 43.2]
Flexor et al. (2013)	54	149	36.2	[28.5; 44.5]
Domingues et al. (2017)	16	42	38.1	[23.6; 54.4]
Hasse et al. (2015)	1457	3230	45.1	[43.4; 46.8]
Van Zoest et at. (2016)	254	527	48.2	[43.9; 52.6]
Calcagno et al. (2017)	699	1092	64.0	[61.1; 66.9]
Random effects model		7044	37.8	[30.5; 45.7]
Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 97\%$, $\tau^2 = 0.2821$, $p < 0.01$				
North America				
Miller et al. (2015)	145	453	32.0	[27.7; 36.5]
Tongma et al. (2013)	37	111	33.3	[24.7; 42.9]
Hanna et al. (2016)	654	1636	40.0	[37.6; 42.4]
Patel et al. (2013)	193	454	42.5	[37.9; 47.2]
Greene et al. (2014)	38	89	42.7	[32.3; 53.6]
Balderson et al. (2013)	208	452	46.0	[41.4; 50.7]
Bryant et al. (2015)	40	79	50.6	[39.1; 62.1]
Onen et al. (2010)	66	122	54.1	[44.8; 63.2]
Parikh et al. (2015)	101	150	67.3	[59.2; 74.8]
Friedman et al. (2016)	21148	24735	85.5	[85.1; 85.9]
Random effects model		28281	50.2	[29.2; 71.2]
Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 100\%$, $\tau^2 = 2.0580$, $p = 0$				
Sub–Saharan Africa				
Njelekela et al. (2016)	813	3317	24.5	[23.1; 26.0]
Manne–Goehler et al (2017)	419	1035	40.5	[37.5; 43.5]
Random effects model		4352	31.9	[18.5; 49.2]
Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 99\%$, $\tau^2 = 0.2706$, $p < 0.01$				
Random effects model		39987	42.0	[29.6; 55.4]
Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 100\%$, $\tau^2 = 1.8081$, $p = 0$				

Figure 2. Pooled prevalence of hypertension among patients aged 50 and older living with HIV.

2.11. Ethical approval

We conducted a systematic review of published evidence; thus no ethical clearance was required.

3. Results

3.1. Study characteristics

The PRISMA flow diagram shows the results of the literature search carried-out to identify and select eligible literature published after the existing systematic reviews[18,19] that were identified. In addition to the 12 eligible full-text articles

that were identified from the existing systematic reviews, the results of the literature search yielded 560 citations. We identified 31 full-text articles for critical review after removing 529 articles due to duplication of articles and failure to meet the eligibility criteria. Of the 31 articles from the updated search that were critically appraised, only 12 articles were included in the analysis; indicating that a total of 24 articles were considered in the analysis. Twenty-four studies, involving 29,987 elderly people living with HIV met the inclusion criteria and were included in this meta-analysis. Characteristics of included studies are summarized in Table 1. The studies were published between 2009 and 2018. Most of the studies were from the United States of
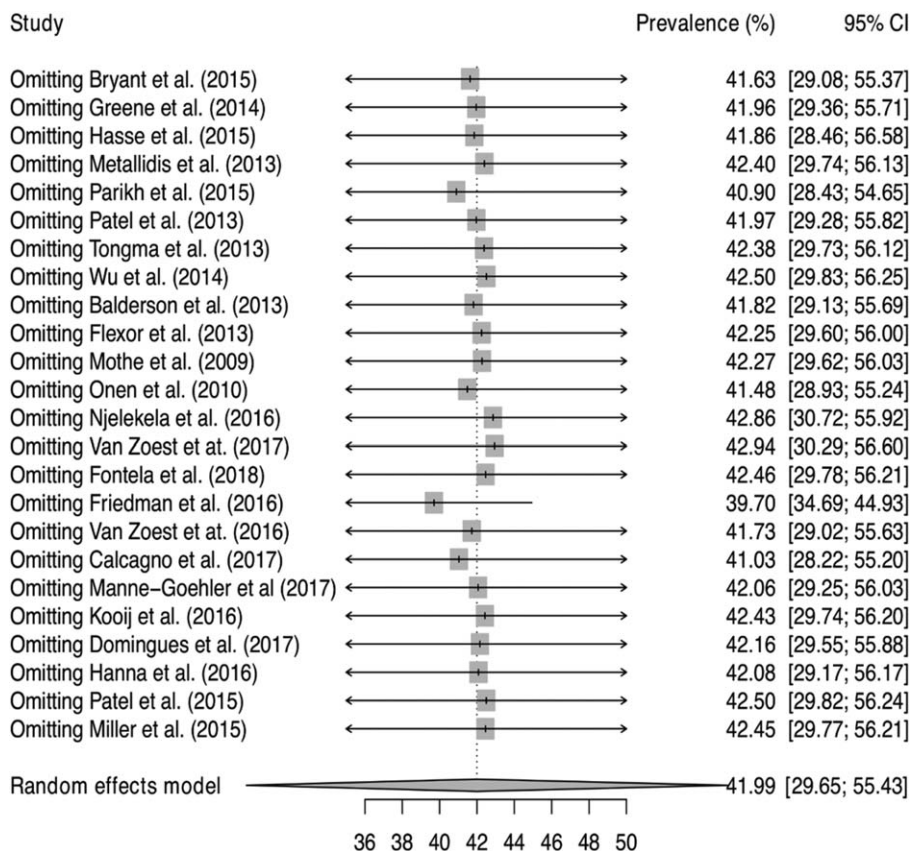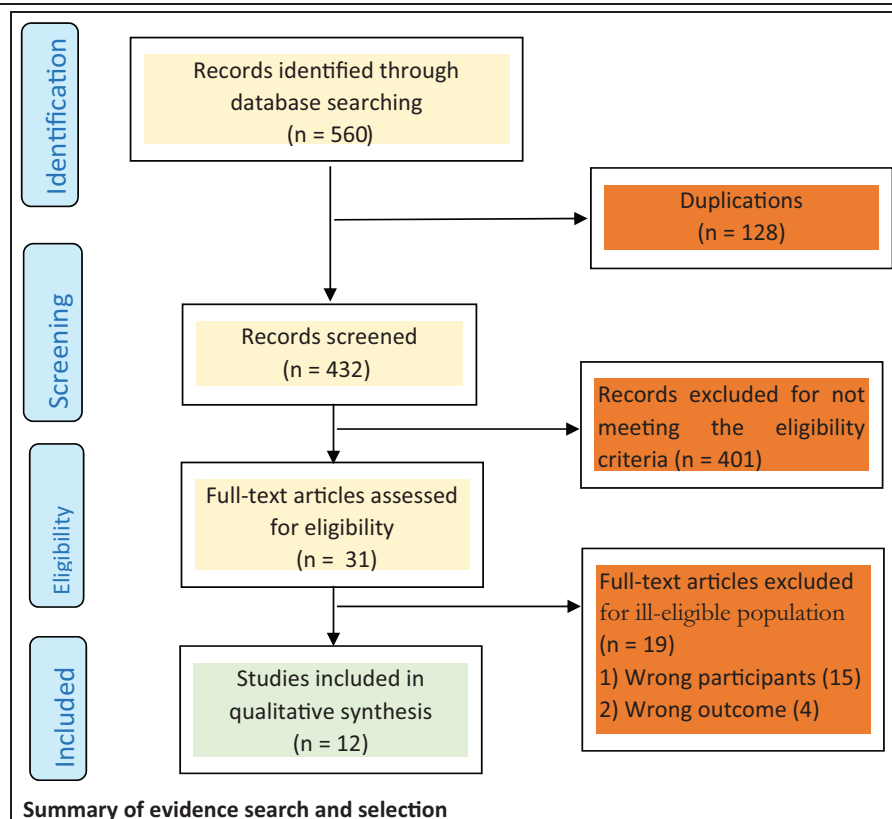
Summary of evidence search and selection

Figure 3. Leave-one-out sensitivity analyses.

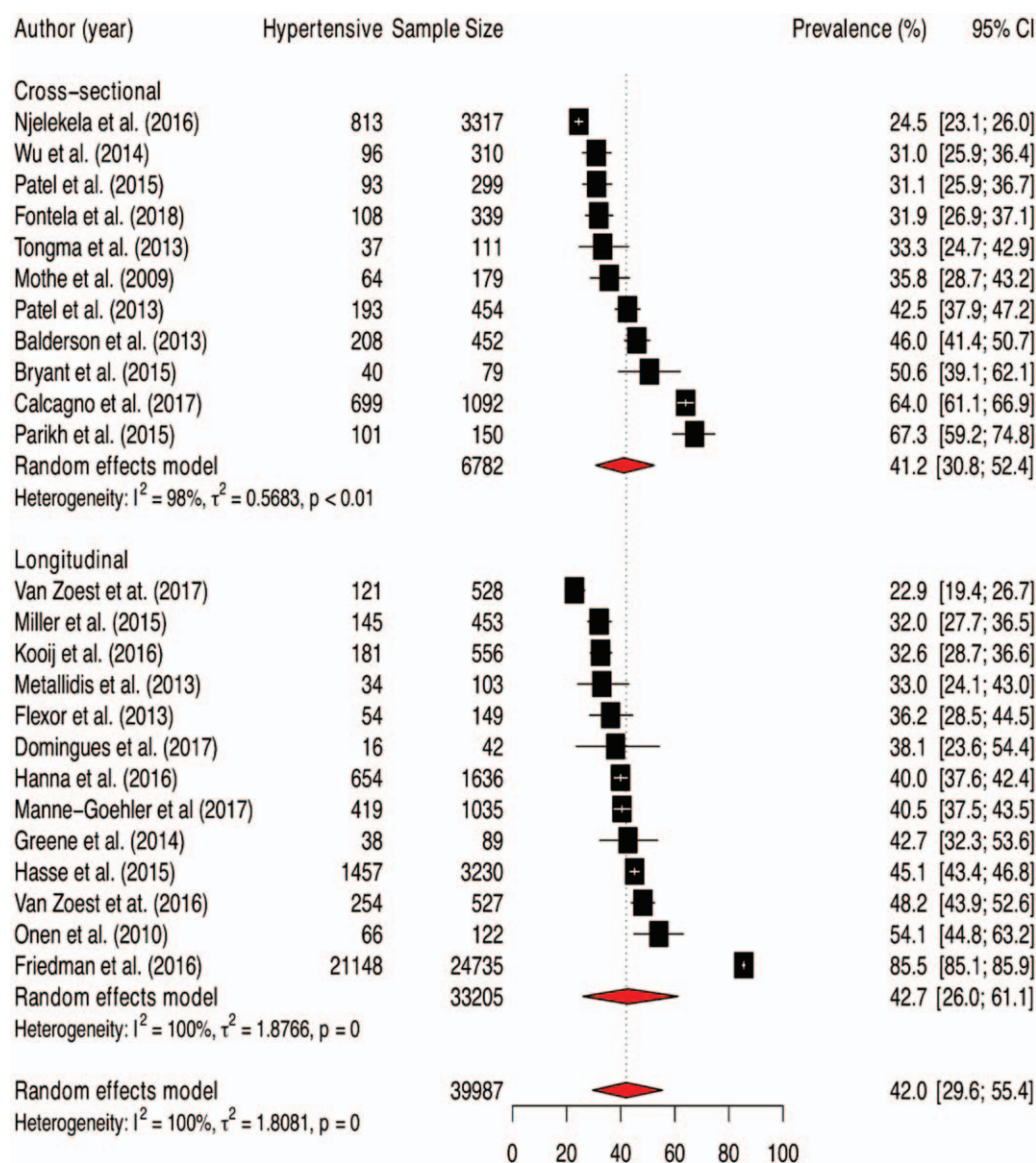| Author (year)	Hypertensive	Sample Size		Prevalence (%)	95% CI
Cross-sectional					
Njelekela et al. (2016)	813	3317		24.5	[23.1; 26.0]
Wu et al. (2014)	96	310		31.0	[25.9; 36.4]
Patel et al. (2015)	93	299		31.1	[25.9; 36.7]
Fontela et al. (2018)	108	339		31.9	[26.9; 37.1]
Tongma et al. (2013)	37	111		33.3	[24.7; 42.9]
Mothe et al. (2009)	64	179		35.8	[28.7; 43.2]
Patel et al. (2013)	193	454		42.5	[37.9; 47.2]
Balderson et al. (2013)	208	452		46.0	[41.4; 50.7]
Bryant et al. (2015)	40	79		50.6	[39.1; 62.1]
Calcagno et al. (2017)	699	1092		64.0	[61.1; 66.9]
Parikh et al. (2015)	101	150		67.3	[59.2; 74.8]
Random effects model		6782		41.2	[30.8; 52.4]
Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 98\%$, $\tau^2 = 0.5683$, $p < 0.01$					
Longitudinal					
Van Zoest et at. (2017)	121	528		22.9	[19.4; 26.7]
Miller et al. (2015)	145	453		32.0	[27.7; 36.5]
Kooij et al. (2016)	181	556		32.6	[28.7; 36.6]
Metallidis et al. (2013)	34	103		33.0	[24.1; 43.0]
Flexor et al. (2013)	54	149		36.2	[28.5; 44.5]
Domingues et al. (2017)	16	42		38.1	[23.6; 54.4]
Hanna et al. (2016)	654	1636		40.0	[37.6; 42.4]
Manne-Goehler et al (2017)	419	1035		40.5	[37.5; 43.5]
Greene et al. (2014)	38	89		42.7	[32.3; 53.6]
Hasse et al. (2015)	1457	3230		45.1	[43.4; 46.8]
Van Zoest et at. (2016)	254	527		48.2	[43.9; 52.6]
Onen et al. (2010)	66	122		54.1	[44.8; 63.2]
Friedman et al. (2016)	21148	24735		85.5	[85.1; 85.9]
Random effects model		33205		42.7	[26.0; 61.1]
Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 100\%$, $\tau^2 = 1.8766$, $p = 0$					
Random effects model		39987		42.0	[29.6; 55.4]
Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 100\%$, $\tau^2 = 1.8081$, $p = 0$					

0 20 40 60 80 100

Figure 4. Pooled prevalence of hypertension among elderly people living with HIV by different subgroup.

America (n=10, 41.7%) followed by the Netherlands (n=3, 12.5%) and Spain (n=3, 12.5%). The sample size ranged from 42 to 24,735 elderly people living with HIV (median=396). The average age ranged from 50 to 76 years and percentage of male ranged from 55.6% to 94.6%.

3.2. Risk of bias of included studies

The results of risk of bias assessment were presented in Figure 1. About two-thirds of the articles included in the analysis have sufficient sample size and the data completeness and respondent rate were adequate. However, only one-third of the articles could be clearly judged to have a representative sample. In almost all the articles, participants' recruitment, description of the study participants, and data analysis were adequate. Bias was observed in the procedures for assessing outcome in two of the articles while the degree of bias could not be ascertained in three articles.

Table 2

Factors associated with prevalence estimates identified by meta-regression analysis.

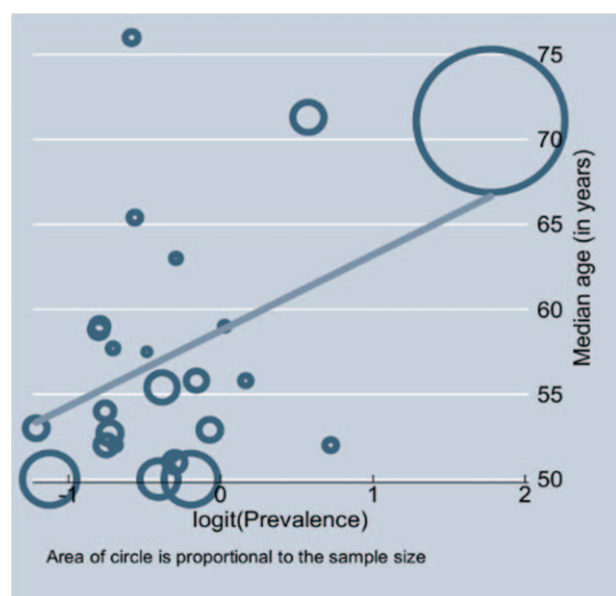| Factor	OR (95% CI)	P-value	Explained variation (%)
Publication year	1.00 (0.88 to 1.15)	.931	0.0
Design			
Cross-sectional	1 (reference)		
Longitudinal	1.06 (0.48 to 2.38)	.873	0.0
Region			8.9
Asia	0.44 (0.11 to 1.76)	.233	
Europe	0.60 (0.33 to 1.07)	.080	
America	1 (reference)		
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.46 (0.17 to 1.27)	.127	
Sample size	1.18 (0.98 to 1.43)	.083	10.2
Mean age (per 10 year)	1.45 (1.01 to 2.09)	.046	14.6
% male	1.00 (0.98 to 1.01)	.479	0.0

Figure 5. Relationship between mean age and hypertension prevalence.

3.3. Prevalence of hypertension among elderly people living with HIV

The prevalence rates of hypertension among elderly people living with HIV and 95% CIs from individual studies with a pooled estimate are shown in Figure 2. The pooled prevalence of hypertension for all studies yielded an estimate of 42.0% (95% CI 29.6% to 55.4%). The I^2 statistics was 100%, indicating statistically significant heterogeneity among the studies. The results of leave-one-study-out sensitivity analyses showed that no study had undue influence on pooled hypertension prevalence (Fig. 3). Figure 2 also show subgroup analysis by different geographical regions. The prevalence of hypertension was observed to be higher among studies conducted in North America (50.2%, 95% CI 29.2%–71.2%, 10 studies, 28281 participants) compared with studies from Europe (37.8%, 95% CI 30.5% to 45.7%, 11 studies, 7044 participants), sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) (31.9%, 95% CI 18.5%–49.2%, 2 studies, 4352 participants) and Asia (31.0%, 95% CI 26.1%–36.3%, 1 study, 310 participants). However, this difference did not reach statistically significant level (p-value for interaction = 0.312). The pooled prevalence estimates from cross-sectional studies (41.2%, 95% CI 30.8%–52.4%, 11 studies, 6782 participants) and longitudinal studies (42.7%, 95% CI 26.0–61.1, 13 studies, 33205 participants) were similar (Fig. 4).

3.4. Factors modifying the prevalence of hypertension as identified by meta-regression analysis

Factors associated with the prevalence estimates and proportion of explained variability in the prevalence estimates as identified by meta-regression analyses are shown in Table 2. In a series of meta-regression analyses, only mean age was statistically significantly associated with the prevalence estimates; such that for every 10 years increase in the mean age of the participants, hypertension prevalence increased by 45% (OR = 1.45, 95% CI 1.01–2.09) (Table 2). In addition, Figure 5 shows the relationship between the mean age of the participants and hypertension

prevalence without ignoring the size of each study population. Moreover, Figure 5 indicates that hypertension prevalence has a direct relationship with mean age of the participants.

4. Discussion

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first systematic review that estimated the global prevalence of hypertension mainly in EPLWH aged 50 years and older. The underlying factors responsible for the observed differences in HIV prevalence among the study populations were examined. We observed that about 42% of EPLWH aged ≥50 years were hypertensive. This estimate is in agreement with the observation made by Xu and colleagues[19]; they found that the prevalence of hypertension among EPLWH aged ≥50 years was 40.3%. This indicates that out of 4.2 million EPLWH worldwide, about 2 million of them are hypertensive.[31]

There was variation in hypertension prevalence among the study populations. North America appear to have the highest prevalence of hypertension among EPLWH aged ≥50 years, followed by Europe, SSA, and Asia but the observed variation was not statistically significant. Among the factors considered in the meta-regression analysis to explain the observed heterogeneity in hypertension prevalence, only the mean age of the participants in each study was found to explain a considerable part of variation in prevalence of hypertension among EPLWH aged ≥50 years. This could be explained by the established relationship between age and occurrence of hypertension.[32–34] However, it is important to note that the observed effect of age on the prevalence of hypertension might have partly contributed by the number of years that the participants have been exposed to HIV and ART.[35,36]

Given that this study involved both cross-sectional and cohort studies, we examined whether the different types of study design used have influence on the estimated prevalence of hypertension among EPLWH aged ≥50 years. Interestingly, the estimated prevalence rates of hypertension obtained from cross-sectional and cohorts were very similar. This indicates that the selected EPLWH aged ≥50 years in both cross-sectional and cohort studies yielded study populations that were similar. It is important to mention that only 2 studies were conducted in SSA among studies found to be eligible for inclusion. This may be due to inadequate research funding and HIV research capacity to answer relevant research questions in this setting[37] even though the region accounts for more than two-thirds of people living with HIV globally.[38]

Findings from this study are consistent with previous studies that have established a positive relationship between HIV infection/ART and occurrence of hypertension. Studies have found that HIV infection can trigger atherogenesis through persistent activation of immune cell by the virus, even in those who had achieved viral suppression.[35,39] Also, certain antiretroviral drugs have been implicated to cause dyslipidemia which will invariably lead to endothelia damage.[36,40–43] In addition, prior studies have shown that aging on its own is a risk factor for hypertension.[32–34] Thus, it was interesting that this study confirmed that aging contributed to the observed prevalence of hypertension based on the synergy between aging and HIV infection. Our observation in this study showed that 2 out 5 EPLWH are hypertensive. It indicates why it is relevant for all HIV stakeholders to integrate the management of hypertension and other prevalent co-morbidities into HIV management package.

We ensured that all eligible studies were included in the meta-analysis as our literature searches were not restricted based on language, year of publication, and geographic location. Most of the studies included were found to be of high quality, indicating low risk of bias in the prevalence rates of hypertension considered. However, this study has some limitations that is worth mentioning. Contrary to the observations in high-income countries, it may be difficult to actually estimate the actual hypertension prevalence in SSA among EPLWH as people residing in this region have a lower life expectancy. However, rectifying this limitation was beyond our control as all eligible studies identified in the literature were considered. Furthermore, it was impossible to explore heterogeneity adequately because individual-patient level characteristics were not captured in all the included studies.

In conclusion, this study estimated the global prevalence of hypertension in EPLWH. The present study will serve as a source of vital information for HIV program implementers and donors to design a comprehensive management package for HIV patients.

Acknowledgments

Author contributions

Conception and design: P Dakum, G.A. Kayode, V.T. Adekanmbi, OA. Uthman. Collection and assembly of data: P Dakum, G.A. Kayode, O.A. Uthman. Analysis and interpretation of the data: P Dakum, G.A. Kayode, O.A. Uthman, V.T. Adekanmbi, A. Alash'le, Y.K. Avong, J. Okuma, E. Onyemata, T. Ali. Drafting of the article: P Dakum, G.A. Kayode, O.A. Uthman, V.T. Adekanmbi, A. Alash'le, Y.K. Avong, J. Okuma, E. Onyemata, T. Ali. Critical revision of the article for important intellectual content: P Dakum, G.A. Kayode, O.A. Uthman, V.T. Adekanmbi, A. Alash'le, Y.K. Avong, J. Okuma, E. Onyemata, T. Ali. Final approval of the article: P Dakum, G.A. Kayode, O.A. Uthman, V.T. Adekanmbi, A. Alash'le, Y.K. Avong, J. Okuma, E. Onyemata, T. Ali. Administrative, technical, or logistic support: P Dakum, G.A. Kayode, A. Alash'le

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