Table H-7. Strength of evidence for key outcomes in case management for patients with serious chronic infections

| **Outcome, Number of Studies** | **Quality**  **(Good, Fair or Poor)** | **Consistency**  **(Consistent or Inconsistent)** | **Directness**  **(Direct or Indirect)** | **Precision**  **(Precise or Imprecise)** | **Number of Subjects** | **Summary of Findings** | **Strength of Evidence** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mortality**  2 trials  Nickel 199679  Sorenson 2003106 | Poor | Consistent | Direct | Imprecise | 247 | CM does not improve survival among patients with HIV infection | Low |
| **Quality of life**  3 trials  Husbands 200741  Nickel 199679 Sorenson 2003106  2 observational studies  Bouey 2000116  Pugh 2009146 | Poor | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 506 | CM results in improvements in QOL measures in the HIV/AIDS population. | Insufficient |
| **TB treatment**  2 trials  Hsieh 200840  Nyamathi 200680  2 observational studies  Lin 2006136  Mangura 2002139 | Fair | Consistent | Direct | Precise | 1,302 | Short-term CM management programs that emphasize medication adherence improve rates of successful treatment for TB in vulnerable populations. | Moderate |
| **HIV treatment**  1 trial  Wohl 2006109  1 observational study  Kushel 2006134 | Fair | Inconsistent | Direct | Imprecise | 474 | Evidence is insufficient to determine whether CM improves antiviral treatment of HIV infection. | Insufficient |
| **Risk behaviors**  2 trials  McCoy 199264  Sorenson 2003106 | Poor | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 300 | Evidence is insufficient to determine whether CM reduces risk behaviors. | Insufficient |
| **Cost of care**  2 trials  Husbands 200741  Wohl 2006109 | Fair | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 273 | CM lowers overall health care costs in the HIV/AIDS population. | Insufficient |
| **Clinic appointment rates**  1 trial  Wohl 2006109  2 observational studies  Andersen 2007113  Kushel 2006134 | Fair | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 525 | No clear benefit. | Low |
| **Intervention characteristics**  1 trial  Hsieh 200840  1 observational study  Kushel 2006134 | Fair | Inconsistent | Direct | Imprecise | 376 | Evidence is insufficient to determine whether more frequent visits by a case manager are associated with higher rates of clinical improvement in HIV and TB infections. | Insufficient |