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 trialsNickel 199679Sorenson 2003106 |  Poor | Consistent | Direct | Imprecise | 247 | CM does not improve survival among patients with HIV infection | Low |
| **Quality of life**3 trialsHusbands 200741Nickel 199679 Sorenson 20031062 observational studiesBouey 2000116Pugh 2009146 | Poor | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 506 | CM results in improvements in QOL measures in the HIV/AIDS population. | Insufficient |
| **TB treatment**2 trialsHsieh 200840Nyamathi 2006802 observational studiesLin 2006136Mangura 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 trialWohl 20061091 observational studyKushel 2006134 | Fair | Inconsistent | Direct | Imprecise | 474 | Evidence is insufficient to determine whether CM improves antiviral treatment of HIV infection. | Insufficient |
| **Risk behaviors**2 trialsMcCoy 199264Sorenson 2003106 | Poor | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 300 | Evidence is insufficient to determine whether CM reduces risk behaviors. | Insufficient |
| **Cost of care**2 trialsHusbands 200741Wohl 2006109 | Fair | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 273 | CM lowers overall health care costs in the HIV/AIDS population. | Insufficient |
| **Clinic appointment rates**1 trialWohl 20061092 observational studiesAndersen 2007113Kushel 2006134 | Fair | Inconsistent | Indirect | Imprecise | 525 | No clear benefit. | Low |
| **Intervention characteristics** 1 trialHsieh 2008401 observational studyKushel 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 |