

# Many patients with diagnosed OSA not receiving treatment

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(HealthDay)—Many patients with diagnosed obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) are not being treated, with only 42 percent reporting adherence to positive airway pressure (PAP) treatment, according to research published in the November issue of *Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery*.

Jonathon O. Russell, M.D., from the Cleveland Clinic, and colleagues conducted a retrospective chart review in an academic hospital to determine the subsequent management of [patients](#) with a diagnosis of OSA. Six hundred sixteen patients met inclusion criteria.

The researchers found that 42 percent of patients had documented adherence to PAP. Thirty-five percent of 241 untreated patients were referred for further attempts at management of diagnosed OSA. Almost

half of the patients did not have continued treatment or referral for diagnosed OSA.

"To our knowledge, this is the first study to define the subsequent management of patients who have failed or refused PAP," the authors write. "Despite the known sequelae of OSA, clinicians are not treating a significant percentage of patients with diagnosed OSA."

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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