Prevalence and major risk factors of type 2 diabetes mellitus among adult psychiatric inpatients from 2005 to 2018 in Beijing, China: a longitudinal observational study

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ABSTRACT

Objective We aim to investigate the prevalence, trends, and major risk factors of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) among adult psychiatric inpatients in Beijing, China.

Research design and methods We did a longitudinal observational study using data from the Beijing Municipal Commission of Health and Family Planning Information Center, including 157 570 adult psychiatric inpatients in 19 specialized psychiatric hospitals from 2005 to 2018 in Beijing. Data on demographic characteristics and antipsychotic medication use were obtained from electronic health records. Schizophrenia, T2DM, and comorbidities were defined according to the International Classification of Diseases, 10th revision codes of discharge diagnosis. The overall prevalence of T2DM in adult psychiatric inpatients was calculated, and the annual prevalence of T2DM was calculated and adjusted to the overall participant population. Univariate and multivariate logistic regression analyses were performed to obtain crude ORs and adjusted ORs (aORs) on the risk of T2DM in patients with different demographic characteristics, schizophrenia, antipsychotic medication use, and different comorbidities. Age-specific prevalence of T2DM under a stratification of schizophrenia or other psychiatric disorders was calculated in the subgroup analysis.

Results Out of 157 570 adult inpatients, 16 939 had T2DM, with a prevalence of 10.75% (95% CI 10.60% to 10.90%). The prevalence was 11.83% (95% CI 11.37% to 11.88%) among patients with schizophrenia and 10.17% (95% CI 9.98% to 10.37%) among patients with other psychiatric disorders. During 2005–2018, the prevalence of T2DM in adult patients increased over the years, from an adjusted prevalence of 5.20% in 2005, to 10.98% in 2010, 12.50% in 2015, and 12.71% in 2018. Results from the multivariate analysis showed that increasing age, diagnosis of schizophrenia (aOR=1.23, 95% CI 1.18 to 1.29), and comorbidities of hypertension (aOR=3.09, 95% CI 2.87 to 3.22), lipid disorders (aOR=1.95, 95% CI 1.80 to 2.04), and fatty liver (aOR=1.93, 95% CI 1.84 to 2.03) were major risk factors of T2DM in adult psychiatric inpatients.

Conclusions The prevalence of T2DM was high among adult psychiatric inpatients in Beijing. Elderly patients, those with schizophrenia, and those with hypertension, lipid disorders, and fatty liver had higher prevalence of T2DM. Prevention and treatment of T2DM are of utmost relevance in hospitalized psychiatric patients.

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a global public health crisis that threatens the economies of all nations, particularly those of developing countries.1 Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM),...
resulting from impaired insulin secretion, insulin resistance, or a combination of both conditions, is far more common than other types of DM; T2DM accounts for more than 90% of all DM cases. According to an estimate by the International Diabetes Federation, 425 million adults aged 20–79 years worldwide had T2DM in 2017, and the areas that were particularly affected by DM were China and India. Rapid socioeconomic development and considerable changes in dietary patterns, behavior, and lifestyle have contributed to the rapidly increasing risk of T2DM. In China, the prevalence of DM has grown rapidly in the past decade, increasing from 2.6% in 2002 to 10.9% in 2013.

DM imposes a substantial physical and psychological burden on patients, resulting in a decline in health status and quality of life. The prevalence of DM is often reported to be higher in psychiatric inpatients than in the general population. Furthermore, the prevalence of DM is generally reported to be higher in people with psychotic disorders than in those with other types of mental illnesses. Patients with serious mental illness (SMI), such as schizophrenia, demonstrate 1.5–2-fold prevalence of T2DM and have poorer long-term outcomes, including increased tendency for relapse of mental illness and increased mortality secondary to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease.

Age, obesity, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and sedentary lifestyle are well-documented risk factors for DM, and many of these risk factors are more common in people with psychotic disorders than in the general population, which is partly explained by adverse health behaviors. Moreover, patients with mental illness exhibit unique risk factors for DM, such as the use of antipsychotic medications. Adverse metabolic effects of second-generation antipsychotics are well documented, including obesity, DM, hypertension, and so on. A large-scale meta-analysis reported that approximately 1 in 10 individuals with SMI (11.3%) had T2DM, and the relative risk (RR) of T2DM in multiphase persons with SMIs was almost double (RR=1.85) that in matched individuals from the general population.

Randomized controlled trials have conclusively demonstrated that intensive lifestyle interventions and medications effectively delay or prevent the development of T2DM in high-risk individuals. Therefore, knowledge of factors associated with a high risk of DM is crucial for specialized psychiatric hospitals, and can help identify individuals with the greatest need for intensive monitoring and intervention, and improve clinical outcomes as well as quality of life in these disadvantaged populations.

Although the prevalence and risk factors for DM in psychiatric patients are well documented, data on the prevalence and risk factors for T2DM among Chinese psychiatric inpatients are scarce. Reported prevalence estimates of DM among psychiatric inpatients range from 12.5% to 25.7% and are often based on small studies or studies on patients with a specific mental illness. We analyzed electronic health records (EHR) data of 157,570 inpatients aged at least 18 years during 2005–2018 from all 19 specialized psychiatric hospitals in Beijing to estimate the prevalence of, trends in, and major risk factors for T2DM in adult psychiatric inpatients. The objective was to identify high-risk individuals and detect and provide treatment for abnormal glucose metabolism among them.

**METHODS**

**Study design and study population**

This was a longitudinal observational study. We used EHR data obtained from the Beijing Municipal Commission of Health and Family Planning Information Center, which covered all 19 specialized psychiatric hospitals in Beijing, China. Among these hospitals, four were third-level psychiatric hospitals, with a bed capacity of over 500, and 15 hospitals were second-level psychiatric hospitals, with a bed capacity below 500. The study population included all inpatients who were discharged from the aforementioned 19 psychiatric hospitals between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2018. The total number of inpatients was 197,990. After excluding 11,874 inpatients aged <18 years as well as 28,546 inpatients because they were readmitted within the same calendar year, 157,570 adult inpatients were included in the final analysis.

**Disease diagnosis and ICD-10 codes**

Information on diseases was obtained from hospital discharge diagnoses, including all primary and secondary diagnoses, which were coded by physicians according to the International Classification of Diseases, 10th revision (ICD-10).

The ICD-10 code for schizophrenia is F20, which includes paranoid schizophrenia, hebephrenic schizophrenia, catatonic schizophrenia, undifferentiated schizophrenia, postpsychotic depression, residual schizophrenia, simple schizophrenia, other schizophrenia, and schizophrenia, unspecified.

In this study, T2DM included ICD-10 codes E11 (non-insulin-dependent DM) and E14 ( unspecified DM).

Comorbidities were also identified using ICD-10 codes: hypertension: I10–I15 (including essential hypertension, hypertensive heart disease, hypertensive renal disease, hypertensive heart and renal disease, and secondary hypertension); lipid disorders: E78 (disorders of lipoprotein metabolism and other lipidemias); and fatty liver: K76.0.

Furthermore, antipsychotic medication use was defined as medical records listing a prescription for antipsychotic medication.

**Outcome variable**

We identified patients with T2DM using ICD-10 codes in all primary and secondary hospital discharge diagnoses.
Covariates
The following demographic characteristics which may be associated with DM were used as adjustment variables: gender (male, female), age (18–29, 30–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60–69, 70–79, and ≥80 years), ethnic origin (Han, and other ethnicity), marital status (never married, married, divorced, widowed, and unknown), payment (new rural cooperative medical scheme (NCMS), urban employee basic medical insurance (UEBMI), urban resident basic medical insurance (URBMI), other insurance, and out-of-pocket expenditure), and hospital level (third-level and second-level hospitals). Diagnosis of schizophrenia or other psychiatric disorders (including bipolar affective disorder, recurrent depressive disorder, depressive episode, mental and behavioral disorders due to use of alcohol, acute and transient psychotic disorders, persistent delusional disorders, manic episode, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and schizoaffective disorders), antipsychotic medication use, and comorbidities of hypertension, lipid disorders, and fatty liver were also considered adjustment variables.

Statistical analyses
Proportions were used to describe data related to demographic characteristics, schizophrenia diagnosis, antipsychotic medication use, and comorbidities. T2DM prevalence was calculated using percentages and 95% CIs. The annual prevalence rates of T2DM from 2005 to 2018 were evaluated for all inpatients and separately for men and women using percentages and 95% CIs. Age-adjusted T2DM prevalence was calculated using direct standardization method, and all participants included in this study were used as a reference population. We used \( \chi^2 \) test to compare the prevalence among inpatients with different characteristics. Univariate and multivariate logistic regression methods were used to analyze factors associated with T2DM. Crude ORs and adjusted ORs (aORs) with 95% CIs were calculated. The prevalence of T2DM in different age groups after stratification by schizophrenia diagnosis was also calculated. All analyses were conducted using SPSS Statistics for Windows, V.19.0.

Patient and public involvement
Patients and the public were not involved in the design and conduct of the study. But the study findings will be disseminated through multiple channels including publication, meetings, conferences and social media.

RESULTS
We enrolled 157 570 inpatients aged at least 18 years from all 19 specialized psychiatric hospitals in Beijing during 2005–2018. The mean age of all inpatients was 43.53±17.16 years. The demographic characteristics of inpatients were as follows: 78 333 (49.71%) were men, 71 552 (45.40%) were aged between 18 and 39 years, 148 320 (94.13%) were of Han ethnicity, 79 583 (50.51%) were married, 61 713 (39.17%) had UEBMI, and 126 884 (80.53%) were discharged from third-level hospitals. Among all inpatients, 62 533 (39.69%) were diagnosed with schizophrenia and 51 778 (32.86%) had prescriptions for antipsychotic medications (table 1).

Among the 157 570 inpatients, 16 939 were diagnosed with T2DM, with a prevalence of 10.75% (95% CI 10.60% to 10.90%). We calculated the prevalence of T2DM using the year in which the inpatients were admitted to the hospital. Logistic regression results showed that the prevalence of T2DM of all inpatients increased with time from 2005 to 2018. The adjusted prevalence of T2DM increased from 5.20% in 2005 to 12.71% in 2018. In male inpatients, the adjusted prevalence of T2DM increased from 5.56% in 2005 to 13.99% in 2018. In female inpatients, the adjusted prevalence of T2DM increased from 4.93% in 2005 to 11.62% in 2018 (table 2, figure 1).

The prevalence of T2DM was slightly higher in women than in men (11.03% vs 10.47%, p<0.001). The prevalence of T2DM increased with age, with prevalence of 0.84%–3.54% in inpatients aged 18–39 years, 9.15%–24.42% in inpatients aged 40–69 years, and more than 28% in inpatients aged ≥70 years. The prevalence of T2DM was higher in inpatients of Han ethnicity than in those of other ethnicities (10.84% vs 9.37%, p<0.001). Divorced and widowed inpatients had higher T2DM prevalence (18.73% and 18.60%), and inpatients who were never married had the lowest T2DM prevalence (5.12%). Inpatients with UEBMI and URBMI had higher T2DM prevalence (17.93% and 16.45%), and those with NCMS had the lowest T2DM prevalence (4.06%). Inpatients from second-level hospitals had higher T2DM prevalence than those from third-level hospitals (21.65% vs 8.12%, p<0.001).

The prevalence of T2DM was significantly higher in inpatients with schizophrenia than in those with other psychiatric disorders (11.63% vs 10.17%, p<0.001). Inpatients with antipsychotic prescription exhibited significantly higher T2DM prevalence than those without antipsychotic prescription (12.14% vs 10.07%, p<0.001). Inpatients with hypertension exhibited significantly higher T2DM prevalence than those without hypertension (34.88% vs 6.36%, p<0.001). Inpatients with lipid disorders had significantly higher T2DM prevalence than those without lipid disorders (26.40% vs 8.16%, p<0.001). Inpatients with fatty liver had significantly higher T2DM prevalence than those without fatty liver (24.93% vs 9.14%, p<0.001; table 1).

The results of multivariate logistic regression analysis showed that female sex and non-Han ethnicity were not associated with a high risk of T2DM; however, age, marital status, payment, and hospital level were associated with the prevalence of T2DM. Compared with inpatients in the 18–29 years age group, the aORs were 6.51 (95% CI 5.78 to 7.33) in the 40–49 years age group and 14.15 (95% CI 12.47 to 16.06) in the 70–79 years age group. The aORs were 1.07 (95% CI 1.01 to 1.12) among inpatients who were married and 1.08 (95% CI 1.01 to 1.16) among inpatients who were widowed compared.
Cardiovascular and Metabolic Risk

Table 1  Prevalence of T2DM in adult psychiatric inpatients during 2005–2018, Beijing, China

|                          | n    | %    | T2DM (n) | Prevalence of T2DM, % (95% CI) | cOR (95% CI) | aOR (95% CI) |
|--------------------------|------|------|----------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| All inpatients           | 157 570 | 100.00 | 16 939 | 10.75 (10.60 to 10.90)          | –            | –            |
| Gender                   |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| Male                     | 78 333 | 49.71 | 8201    | 10.47 (10.26 to 10.68)          | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Female                   | 79 237 | 50.29 | 8738    | 11.03 (10.81 to 11.25)          | 1.06 (1.03 to 1.09) | 1.00 (0.97 to 1.04) |
| Age group, years         |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| 18–29                    | 42 063 | 26.69 | 355     | 0.84 (0.76 to 0.93)             | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| 30–39                    | 29 489 | 18.71 | 1043    | 3.54 (3.33 to 3.75)             | 4.31 (3.82 to 4.86) | 3.10 (2.74 to 3.51) |
| 40–49                    | 29 160 | 18.51 | 2669    | 9.15 (8.82 to 9.48)             | 11.84 (10.58 to 13.24) | 6.51 (5.78 to 7.33) |
| 50–59                    | 27 244 | 17.29 | 4966    | 18.23 (17.77 to 18.69)          | 26.19 (23.49 to 29.20) | 10.84 (9.64 to 12.19) |
| 60–69                    | 16 150 | 10.25 | 3944    | 24.42 (23.76 to 25.08)          | 37.96 (33.99 to 42.40) | 12.72 (11.28 to 14.35) |
| 70–79                    | 8980  | 5.70  | 2601    | 28.96 (28.03 to 29.90)          | 47.90 (42.74 to 53.69) | 14.15 (12.47 to 16.06) |
| ≥80                      | 4484  | 2.85  | 1361    | 30.35 (29.01 to 31.70)          | 51.20 (45.31 to 57.86) | 12.23 (10.66 to 14.05) |
| Ethnic origin            |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| Han                      | 148 320 | 94.13 | 16 072  | 10.84 (10.68 to 10.99)          | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Others                   | 9250  | 5.87  | 867     | 9.37 (8.78 to 9.97)             | 0.85 (0.79 to 0.91) | 1.04 (0.97 to 1.13) |
| Marital status           |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| Never married            | 59 057 | 37.48 | 3022    | 5.12 (4.94 to 5.29)             | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Married                  | 79 583 | 50.51 | 10 389  | 13.05 (12.82 to 13.29)          | 2.78 (2.67 to 2.90) | 1.07 (1.01 to 1.12) |
| Divorced                 | 7980  | 5.06  | 1495    | 18.73 (17.88 to 19.59)          | 4.27 (4.00 to 4.57) | 1.07 (0.99 to 1.16) |
| Widowed                  | 10 841 | 6.88  | 2016    | 18.60 (17.86 to 19.33)          | 4.24 (3.99 to 4.50) | 1.08 (1.01 to 1.16) |
| Unknown                  | 109   | 0.07  | 17      | 15.60 (8.68 to 22.52)           | 3.43 (2.04 to 5.76) | 1.00 (0.57 to 1.74) |
| Payment                  |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| NCMS                     | 26 159 | 16.60 | 1063    | 4.06 (3.82 to 4.30)             | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| UEBMI                    | 61 713 | 39.17 | 11 067  | 17.93 (17.63 to 18.24)          | 5.16 (4.84 to 5.50) | 1.94 (1.81 to 2.08) |
| URBMI                    | 6998  | 4.44  | 1151    | 16.45 (15.58 to 17.32)          | 4.65 (4.26 to 5.08) | 1.61 (1.46 to 1.78) |
| Other insurance          | 24 211 | 15.37 | 1937    | 8.00 (7.66 to 8.34)             | 2.05 (1.90 to 2.22) | 1.38 (1.27 to 1.50) |
| OOP                      | 38 489 | 24.43 | 1721    | 4.47 (4.26 to 4.68)             | 1.11 (1.02 to 1.19) | 1.06 (0.98 to 1.15) |
| Hospital level           |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| Third-level              | 126 884 | 80.53 | 10 297  | 8.12 (7.97 to 8.27)             | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Second-level             | 30 686 | 19.47 | 6642    | 21.65 (21.18 to 22.11)          | 3.13 (3.02 to 3.24) | 1.55 (1.48 to 1.61) |
| Schizophrenia            |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| No                       | 95 037 | 60.31 | 9669    | 10.17 (9.98 to 10.37)           | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes                      | 62 533 | 39.69 | 7270    | 11.63 (11.37 to 11.88)          | 1.16 (1.12 to 1.20) | 1.23 (1.18 to 1.29) |
| Antipsychotics           |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| No                       | 105 792 | 67.14 | 10 655  | 10.07 (9.89 to 10.25)           | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes                      | 51 778 | 32.86 | 6284    | 12.14 (11.86 to 12.42)          | 1.23 (1.19 to 1.27) | 1.02 (0.98 to 1.06) |
| Hypertension             |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| No                       | 133 336 | 84.62 | 8485    | 6.36 (6.23 to 6.49)             | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes                      | 24 234 | 15.38 | 8454    | 34.88 (34.28 to 35.48)          | 7.88 (7.62 to 8.16) | 3.09 (2.97 to 3.22) |
| Lipid disorders          |      |      |         |                                 |              |              |
| No                       | 135 203 | 85.81 | 11 034  | 8.16 (8.02 to 8.31)             | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes                      | 22 367 | 14.19 | 5905    | 26.40 (25.82 to 26.98)          | 4.04 (3.90 to 4.18) | 1.95 (1.88 to 2.04) |

Continued
with those who had never been married. Compared with inpatients with NCMS payment, the aORs were 1.94 (95% CI 1.81 to 2.08) among those with UEBMI payment and 1.61 (95% CI 1.46 to 1.78) among those with URBMI payment. The aORs among inpatients from second-level hospitals were 1.55 (95% CI 1.48 to 1.61) compared with those from third-level hospitals.

In the multivariate logistic models for T2DM, the aOR of inpatients with schizophrenia was 1.23 (95% CI 1.18 to 1.29) compared with inpatients with other psychiatric disorders. The aORs of inpatients with hypertension, lipid disorders, and fatty liver were 3.09 (95% CI 2.97 to 3.22), 1.95 (95% CI 1.88 to 2.04), and 1.93 (95% CI 1.84 to 2.03), respectively. After adjustment for all covariates, the aOR of inpatients with antipsychotic medication prescription was 1.02 (95% CI 0.98 to 1.06) compared with those without antipsychotic medication prescription (table 1).

We analyzed the prevalence of T2DM stratified by schizophrenia and other psychiatric disorders. The prevalence of T2DM increased with age in inpatients with schizophrenia and in those with other psychiatric disorders. In each age group, the prevalence of T2DM was higher in patients with schizophrenia than in those with other psychiatric disorders. The prevalence of T2DM was approximately two times higher among patients with schizophrenia in the 18–29 and 30–39 years age groups than among those in the other age groups (figure 2).

**DISCUSSION**

Individuals with SMI, including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, schizoaffective disorder, and major depressive disorder, are prone to multiple physical health problems. Results from a meta-analysis showed that approximately 1 in 10 individuals with SMI (11.3%) had T2DM. In this study, we found that the prevalence of T2DM among adult psychiatric inpatients was 10.75% in Beijing, which is lower than that reported in the aOR, adjusted OR; cOR, crude OR; NCMS, new rural cooperative medical scheme; OOP, out-of-pocket; T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus; UEBMI, urban employee basic medical insurance; URBMI, urban resident basic medical insurance.

**Table 1**

| Fatty liver | n   | %    | T2DM (n) | % (95% CI) | cOR (95% CI) | aOR (95% CI) |
|------------|-----|------|----------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| No         | 141 | 513  | 12,936   | 9.14 (8.99 to 9.29) | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes        | 16  | 057  | 4,003    | 24.93 (24.26 to 25.60) | 3.30 (3.17 to 3.44) | 1.93 (1.84 to 2.03) |

The novel groups provide a step toward a more precise diabetes stratification. Due to the limited data in our study, we could not identify diabetes by using the novel subgroups; such stratification can be applied in future studies.

The most commonly diagnosed specific chronic disease among schizophrenia patients is diabetes, which was reported to affect 12.5% of women and 11.0% of men in a Swedish national cohort study followed up for 7 years. Our results are consistent with the Swedish study, with a T2DM prevalence of 11.03% in female patients with schizophrenia and of 10.47% in male patients with schizophrenia. In our study, the overall prevalence of T2DM in patients with schizophrenia was 11.63%, which is lower than the previous estimate of 12.50% in patients aged 22–76 years with schizophrenia in a Chinese hospital.

Since 2005, the T2DM prevalence among adult psychiatric inpatients has increased with time; the highest prevalence rate among women was observed in 2015 and that among men was observed in 2018. Although the reason for T2DM prevalence increasing over the years might be the improvement in assessment of diabetes over the years, the diabetes prevalence has also increased in the general population from 2.6% in 2002 to 10.9% in 2013.

The prevalence of T2DM in psychiatric inpatients increased with age, which is consistent with the results of a study conducted on patients with SMI in the UK. The prevalence of diabetes in inpatients aged 60–69 years (24.42%) was only slightly lower than that (25.7%) in hospitalized elderly patients with schizophrenia in Shanghai. Compared with the overall DM prevalence in the general Chinese adult population (10.9%), that of psychiatric inpatients was slightly lower (10.75%). However, in the <40 years age group, psychiatric inpatients had lower diabetes prevalence (0.84%–3.54%) than the general adult population (5.9%). In the 40–59 years age group (9.15%–18.23%) and ≥60 years age group (24.42%–30.35%), psychiatric inpatients had higher diabetes prevalence than general adults (12.9% and 20.2%, respectively). In the general population, age was an important risk factor of T2DM; hence, it should not be considered a risk factor specific to adult psychiatric inpatients.

Multivariate analysis revealed that gender was not related to the prevalence of T2DM, which is consistent with the findings of other research. Wang and colleagues estimated the prevalence of diabetes in the Chinese adult population, and they found that the crude prevalence of diabetes was lower among major minority...
## Table 2  Trend in T2DM prevalence in adult psychiatric inpatients during 2005–2018, Beijing, China

| Year | n (%)  | T2DM (n) | Prevalence of T2DM, % (95% CI) | Adjusted prevalence of T2DM (%) | Prevalence of T2DM in men, % (95% CI) | Adjusted prevalence of T2DM in men (%) | Prevalence of T2DM in women, % (95% CI) | Adjusted prevalence of T2DM in women (%) |
|------|--------|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 2005 | 5923 (3.76) | 291 | 4.91 (4.36 to 5.46) | 5.20 | 1.00 | 4.88 (4.10 to 5.66) | 5.56 | 4.94 (4.16 to 5.72) | 4.93 |
| 2006 | 6936 (4.40) | 358 | 5.16 (4.64 to 5.68) | 5.53 | 1.05 (0.90 to 1.23) | 4.87 (4.15 to 5.58) | 5.55 | 4.56 (4.70 to 6.21) | 5.56 |
| 2007 | 9785 (6.21) | 663 | 6.78 (6.28 to 7.27) | 7.32 | 1.41 (1.22 to 1.62) | 5.93 (5.28 to 6.59) | 5.62 | 7.65 (6.90 to 8.40) | 7.80 |
| 2008 | 11 366 (7.21) | 795 | 6.99 (6.53 to 7.46) | 7.97 | 1.46 (1.27 to 1.67) | 6.01 (5.41 to 6.61) | 6.99 | 8.08 (7.35 to 8.81) | 8.84 |
| 2009 | 12 102 (7.68) | 914 | 7.55 (7.08 to 8.02) | 8.63 | 1.58 (1.38 to 1.81) | 6.61 (6.01 to 7.22) | 7.73 | 8.64 (7.90 to 9.37) | 9.40 |
| 2010 | 9914 (6.29) | 1075 | 10.84 (10.23 to 11.46) | 10.98 | 2.35 (2.06 to 2.69) | 10.09 (9.27 to 10.91) | 10.54 | 11.67 (10.76 to 12.59) | 11.26 |
| 2011 | 10 063 (6.39) | 1122 | 11.15 (10.53 to 11.76) | 11.06 | 2.43 (2.13 to 2.77) | 11.06 (10.20 to 11.93) | 11.33 | 11.24 (10.36 to 12.11) | 10.69 |
| 2012 | 10 694 (6.79) | 1326 | 12.40 (11.77 to 13.02) | 11.83 | 2.74 (2.40 to 3.12) | 12.67 (11.76 to 13.59) | 12.14 | 12.15 (11.30 to 13.01) | 11.56 |
| 2013 | 11 715 (7.43) | 1462 | 12.48 (11.88 to 13.08) | 11.73 | 2.76 (2.42 to 3.14) | 12.74 (11.88 to 13.59) | 12.41 | 12.23 (11.39 to 13.06) | 11.04 |
| 2014 | 12 519 (7.95) | 1566 | 12.51 (11.93 to 13.09) | 12.15 | 2.77 (2.43 to 3.15) | 12.04 (11.23 to 12.85) | 12.28 | 12.97 (12.14 to 13.80) | 11.98 |
| 2015 | 13 556 (8.60) | 1774 | 13.09 (12.52 to 13.65) | 12.50 | 2.91 (2.56 to 3.31) | 12.34 (11.55 to 13.13) | 12.36 | 13.80 (12.99 to 14.62) | 12.52 |
| 2016 | 14 351 (9.11) | 1872 | 13.04 (12.49 to 13.60) | 12.54 | 2.90 (2.56 to 3.30) | 13.02 (12.24 to 13.80) | 13.07 | 13.07 (12.29 to 13.85) | 11.89 |
| 2017 | 15 094 (9.58) | 1927 | 12.77 (12.23 to 13.30) | 12.34 | 2.83 (2.49 to 3.22) | 13.44 (12.65 to 14.22) | 13.43 | 12.15 (11.43 to 12.88) | 11.32 |
| 2018 | 13 552 (8.60) | 1794 | 13.24 (12.67 to 13.81) | 12.71 | 2.95 (2.60 to 3.36) | 14.18 (13.31 to 15.05) | 13.99 | 12.45 (11.69 to 13.20) | 11.62 |
| Overall | 157 570 (100.00) | 16 939 | 10.75 (10.60 to 10.90) | 10.75 | – | 10.47 (10.26 to 10.68) | 10.47 | 11.03 (10.81 to 11.25) | 11.03 |

T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus.
Cardiovascular and Metabolic Risk

Figure 1  Trend in prevalence of T2DM in adult psychiatric inpatients during 2005–2018 in Beijing, China. (A) Crude prevalence of T2DM. (B) Adjusted prevalence of T2DM according to the overall participant population. T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus.

ethnic groups compared with Han participants, except for Manchu participants. In our study, the prevalence of diabetes among inpatients of other ethnicities was lower than that in Han inpatients, but no significant difference was observed after adjustment for other variables. The differences in T2DM prevalence between inpatients of Han ethnicity and those of other ethnicities might be related to substantial differences in genetic backgrounds, socioeconomic levels, lifestyle, and dietary patterns.

Our study revealed that inpatients who had never been married had lower T2DM prevalence than married inpatients. A possible reason is that inpatients who had never been married tended to be younger. Meanwhile, inpatients who were widowed had higher prevalence for T2DM; this might be due to the lack of social support from a spouse. Previous studies have shown that adults with SMI have inadequate knowledge of diabetes and have poor self-care practices, which may be a result of cognitive challenges, poor communication and compliance difficulties. Our results indicated that mental health providers play an integral role in the care of adult psychiatric inpatients, particularly elderly inpatients and those with limited family support. Furthermore, basic information regarding diabetes self-management and diabetes education should be provided to patients and their family members.

Our study also found that inpatients with UEBMI and URBMI payments exhibited higher prevalence of T2DM than inpatients with NCMS payments. UEBMI and URBMI are types of insurance for urban employees and residents, whereas NCMS is insurance for rural residents. A large prospective study on adults from urban and rural areas in China showed that diabetes prevalence was higher in urban areas than in rural areas (8.1% vs 4.1%, respectively). The differences in socioeconomic levels, lifestyle, and dietary patterns between urban and rural areas can possibly account for the difference in T2DM prevalence.

Compared with inpatients with other psychiatric disorders, such as bipolar affective disorder, recurrent depressive disorder, depressive episode, mental and behavioral disorders due to use of alcohol, and acute and transient psychotic disorders, those with schizophrenia had a higher prevalence of T2DM. This trend persisted even after adjustment for other variables; the aOR for inpatients with schizophrenia was 1.23, which indicates that inpatients with schizophrenia have a higher probability of suffering from T2DM than those with other psychiatric disorders. After stratification by schizophrenia and other psychiatric disorders, we found that among young inpatients (18–39 years), those with schizophrenia exhibited higher diabetes prevalence than did those with other psychiatric disorders. This finding suggests that diabetes screening in inpatients with schizophrenia should begin at the earliest possible age.

Some antipsychotics, such as olanzapine and clozapine, have severe weight-gain side effects. A possible reason is that patients treated with these drugs may develop abnormal eating behaviors in response to altered appetite sensations and increased susceptibility to hunger, which may lead to a positive energy balance and contribute to gain in body weight, thus increasing the risk of T2DM. Besides, impaired glucose tolerance has been shown to occur even without weight gain in patients taking antipsychotics. In the present study, inpatients with antipsychotics use had significantly higher T2DM prevalence than those without antipsychotics use. However, the difference in T2DM prevalence became non-significant after adjustment for other variables. This result might be due to an underestimation of antipsychotics use in the inpatient population. In our study, 52.86% of inpatients received prescription of antipsychotic medication, according to the medical records. Inpatients who had a history of antipsychotic medication use might not
have been identified in this study. Nevertheless, psychiatrists should, regardless of the medication prescribed, monitor and record waist circumference in every patient with schizophrenia at every visit, and should encourage patients to monitor and record their own weight.24

As T2DM, metabolic syndrome and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease are closely related,25 we included hypertension, lipid disorders, and fatty liver as covariates in this study. Patients with schizophrenia were reported to exhibit poor dietary habits, mainly characterized by a high intake of saturated fat and a low intake of fiber and fruit.26 Such a diet is more likely to increase the risk of metabolic abnormalities, including central obesity, hypertension, dyslipidemia, and glucose intolerance.27 Although hypertension and lipid disorders were not specific risk factors among psychiatric patients, these factors were more common in people with psychotic disorders due to adverse health behaviors, such as low levels of physical activity and poor diet.7 Foley and colleagues19 found that treated hypercholesterolemia and treated hypertension were strong predictors of T2DM, and the OR of DM development was 3.23 in psychiatric patients with hypertension. Our findings are consistent with those of Foley and colleagues19 study. In our study, the aORs were 3.09 in inpatients with hypertension and 1.95 in those with lipid disorders, which indicate that inpatients with hypertension or lipid disorders have a higher probability of suffering from T2DM than those without these conditions. Thus, risk factors such as hypertension and dyslipidemia established in the general population were also strongly associated with T2DM among psychiatric inpatients. Lowering blood pressure is the single most effective intervention for reducing cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in patients with T2DM in the general population.19 Our findings suggest that psychiatric inpatients with hypertension and lipid disorders have a higher prevalence of T2DM. Prevention and treatment of diabetes should be provided to these patients.

This study has several strengths. To our knowledge, this is by far the largest study on T2DM prevalence among adult psychiatric inpatients in China. We included all 19 specialized psychiatric hospitals in Beijing during 2005–2018. The prevalence and trend of T2DM among psychiatric inpatients in Beijing were accurately estimated. Furthermore, we used ICD-10 codes for disease diagnosis, which enables our results to be compared with those of similar studies.

This study has several limitations. First, our data covered all psychiatric inpatients from specialized psychiatric hospitals in Beijing and did not include patients in general hospitals and those who were not hospitalized. Thus, our results cannot be generalized to the entire population of patients with psychiatric disorders. Second, antipsychotics use in a population of inpatients might have been underestimated. Thus, additional studies on the association between antipsychotics use and T2DM in psychiatric inpatients are required. Finally, because we only included non-insulin-dependent patients with diabetes, individuals with T2DM who were dependent on insulin might be excluded; consequently, the prevalence of T2DM might have been underestimated.

In conclusion, the prevalence of T2DM was 10.75% in adult psychiatric inpatients in Beijing. Elderly inpatients as well as inpatients with schizophrenia, and those with hypertension, lipid disorders, and fatty liver exhibited higher T2DM prevalence. Psychiatric inpatients should be included in prevention strategies for diabetes, such as monitoring of metabolic conditions and lifestyle interventions, in combination with treatment for psychiatric disorders. Appropriate detection and treatment of abnormal glucose metabolism are crucial for interventions to improve clinical outcomes in psychiatric inpatients.

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