Table H-4. Strength of evidence for key outcomes in case management for patients with congestive heart failure

| **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**  6 trials  Debusk 200423; Jaarsma 200843  Kasper 200246  Pugh 200185  Rich 199589  Riegel 2002155 | Good | Consistent | Direct | Imprecise | 2,383 | Case management programs that serve adults with CHF do not reduce mortality. | Low |
| **Quality of**  **life**  6 trials  Kasper 200246  Peters-Klimm 201084  Pugh 200185  Rich 199589  Riegel 200691  Sisk 2006105 | Good | Inconsistent | Direct | Imprecise | 1,280 | Case management programs that serve patients with CHF improve CHF-related quality of life. | Low |
| **Patient satisfaction**  3 trials  Laramee 200350  Peters-Klimm 201084  Riegel 2002155 | Fair | Consistent | Direct | Imprecise | 844 | Case management programs that serve patients with CHF increase patient satisfaction. | Moderate |
| **Patient adherence to self-management behaviors**  3 trials  Kasper 200246  Laramee 200350  Peters-Klimm 201084 | Good | Consistent | Direct | Imprecise | 686 | Case management increases patients’ adherence to self-management behaviors recommended for patients with CHF. | Moderate |
| **Guideline adherence**  3 trials  Debusk 200423  Kasper 200246  Laramee 200350 | Good | Inconsistent | Direct | Imprecise | 949 | CM does not increase the use of recommended medications for CHF | Insufficient |
| **All-cause hospitalizations**  10 trials  Debusk 200423  Jaarsma 200843  Kasper 200246  Laramee 200350  Pugh 200185  Rich 199388  Rich 199589  Riegel 2002155  Riegel 200691  Sisk 2006105  1 observational study  Creason 2001119 | Good | Inconsistent | Direct | Imprecise | 3,540 | Case management reduces hospitalization rates among CHF patients. | Low |