A Public Health Concern
High Rates of Health Risks among People with Serious Mental Illness

Data are from 457 adults with a serious mental illness (SMI) attending publicly funded community mental health programs screened from 2010-2012 in 4 states: NJ, IL, MD, and GA.

Screening identified 43 individuals with treated but uncontrolled diabetes (Hemoglobin A1C ≥ 6.5), and 15 people with undiagnosed diabetes.

Screening identified 61 individuals with treated but uncontrolled hypertension (BP ≥ 140/90), and 60 people with undiagnosed hypertension.

Screening identified 12 individuals with treated but uncontrolled high cholesterol (240+ mg/dL), and 7 people with undiagnosed high cholesterol.

Comparing their health attitudes before and after the Health Fair, participants felt significantly more competent to maintain their health, more able to engage in healthy practices, and more able to exercise personal control over their health.

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