**Appendix A.** Comparison of basic characteristics of the study sample and the participants who dropped-out

| **Characteristic\*** | **Study sample (N=559)** | **Dropped-out participants (n=124)** | **P-value** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **30-day readmission**, n (%) | 85 (15.2) | 20 (16.1) | .80 |
| **Length of stay** (1–30), mean±SD | 5.7±3.7 | 5.8±9.7 | .93 |
| **Baseline characteristics** |  |  |  |
| Age, y, mean±SD | 78.8±5.6 | 80.0±6.2 | .037 |
| Male, n (%) | 274 (49.0) | 63 (50.8) | .72 |
| Living alone, n (%) | 167 (29.9) | 40 (32.3) | .60 |
| Education, y, mean±SD | 9.6±5.0 | 9.0±5.3 | .22 |
| Chronic condition, n (%) |  |  |  |
| Congestive heart failure | 169 (30.2) | 39 (31.5) | .79 |
| Chronic renal failure | 188 (33.6) | 43 (34.7) | .82 |
| Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | 93 (16.6) | 22 (17.7) | .77 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 249 (44.5) | 57 (46.0) | .77 |
| Ischemic heart disease | 353 (63.1) | 80 (64.5) | .78 |
| Arrhythmia | 242 (43.3) | 63 (50.8) | .13 |
| Malignancy | 176 (31.5) | 44 (35.5) | .39 |
| Asthma | 72 (12.9) | 14 (11.3) | .63 |
| Number of generic medications prescribed year before index hospitalization, mean±SD | 12.1±5.7 | 11.8±5.0 | .54 |
| Number of hospitalizations year before index hospitalization, mean±SD | 1.2±1.6 | 1.1±1.3 | .39 |
| APACHE II (0–71), mean±SD | 11.5±4.4 | 11.3±4.1 | .64 |
| ADL (mBI) (0–100), mean±SD | 76.9±28.9 | 80.3±25.5 | .20 |
| Cognitive impairment (SPMSQ≤5), n (%) | 68 (12.2) | 15 (12.1) | .98 |
| Depression symptoms (TZI≥70), n (%) | 106 (19.0) | 11 (20.8) | .85 |
| Anxiety symptoms (SAST≥24), n (%) | 138 (24.7) | 14 (26.9) | .84 |
| Risk of malnutrition (MUST), n (%) |  |  |  |
| Low risk | 177 (31.7) | 26 (22.6) | .14 |
| Moderate risk | 169 (30.2) | 42 (36.5) | .19 |
| High risk | 213 (38.1) | 47 (40.9) | .58 |
| Serum albumin (g/dL), mean±SD | 3.4±0.5 | 3.6±0.5 | <.001 |

NOTE: Abbreviations: APACHEII, Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation II; ADL, Activities of Daily Living; mBI, modified Barthel Index; IADL, Instrumental Activities of Daily Living; mBI, modified Barthel index; SPMSQ, Short Portable Mental Status Questionnaire score; TZI, Tucker short Depression Rating Scale; SAST, Short Anxiety Screening Test; MUST, Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool;

\*Percent varies due to missing data.