Satisfaction of patients and their caregivers with home parenteral nutrition | 1

Abstract:

Introduction: Home Parenteral Nutrition (HPN) is a practice in continually growing by the significant advantages involved for the patient and the healthcare system. Today, in the investigation of health outcomes is essential to assess the patient’s opinion. Among the measures focused on patients with HPN, several studies about quality of life have been done, but the degree of satisfaction with this treatment modality has not been evaluated.

Objective: To evaluate the degree of satisfaction of patients and their caregivers receiving HPN with doctors, pharmacists and nurses in a hospital.

Material and methods: An anonymous survey was distributed, which consisted of 48 closed questions to patients and their caregivers receiving HPN who voluntarily answered. With survey responses a database in SPSS with the following variables was created: personal, sociocultural, clinical and related to HPN data and valuation of health personnel involved (nutrition area of the Pharmacy Service and Nursing and Medical Nutrition Units) and hospital facilities related to HPN. Also a section of open response suggestions was included.

Results: 24 surveys were distributed, 12 to patients and 12 to caregivers. Response rate was 91.7% in the case of patients and 58.3% in the caregivers. 63.6% of patients and 42.9% of caregivers were women. Mean age was, respectively, 46.1 years (SD: 13.7) and 47.0 years (SD: 3.6). Most of patients (55.6%) and caregivers (60.0%) had secondary studies and were pensioners (72.7% and 71.4%, respectively). Underlying diseases of patients were: radiation enteritis (27.3%), intestinal obstruction (18.2%), intestinal carcinomatosis (45.5%) and Chron’s disease (9.1%). With respect to items assessing satisfaction with physicians, nurses and pharmacists, in general both patients and caregivers were satisfied. Suggestions made were: greater amplitude of delivery schedule of HPN and inclusion of audiovisual information.

Conclusions: The degree of satisfaction of patients receiving HPN and their caregivers with the care given by doctors, pharmacists and nurses is appropriate, but it is possible to make improvements to optimize the quality of the whole process.

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