Study of Health-Related Quality of Life in Chronic Diseases associated with Psychological Distress in Children

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of Master Degree in Pediatrics

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List of Abbreviations

BP Bodily Pain
CDI Children Depression Inventory

CHCV Chronic Hepatitis C Virus

CKD Chronic Kidney Disease

CLD Chronic Liver Disease

DIS Diagnostic Interview Schedule

DNA Deoxyribonucleic Acid

DTC Direct to Consumer

ESRD End-Stage Renal Disease

ESRF End-Stage Renal Failure

GH General Health

HADS Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale

HBV Hepatitis B Virus

HCC Hepatocellular Carcinoma

HRQoL Health Related Quality of Life

MAOI Mono Amine Oxidase Inhibitor

MCS Mental Component Summary

MH Mental Health

MRI Magnetic Resonance Imaging

NBS Norm Based Scoring

PCS Physical Component Summary

PF Physical Functioning

PRO Patient Reported Outcomes

PTSD Post traumatic Stress Disorder

QoL Quality of Life

RCT Randomized Controlled Trial

RF Role Functioning (emotional)

ROC Receiver Operating Curve

RP Role functioning (Physical)

SF Social Functioning

SF12 Short Form 12

SHE Subjective Handicap of Epilepsy

SSRI Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor

TCA Tri-Cyclic Antidepressant

VT Vitality

Introduction

Introduction

Health-related quality of life represents the functional effects of an illness and its consequent therapy upon a patient, as perceived by the patient

Measurement of health-related quality of life (HRQL) is an essential component in overall assessment of health status and understanding of the factors that determine good health is necessary for maintained function and improved HRQL.(**Keles et al., 2007**).

Advances in medicine have prolonged the life of many persons with chronic diseases and one of the main objectives of health care in chronic diseases should be preserving a satisfactory HRQL. (**Keles et al., 2007**).

Numerous factors including psychological state, sex, low income, level of education, co-morbidity, seriousness of illnesses and age may lead to a reduced HRQL in chronic diseases. (**Keles et al., 2007**).

Since the beginning of the 1990s there has been a growing interest, in evaluating health-related quality of life (HRQL) in clinical studies.

In this study we have chosen 6 chronic diseases associated with psychological distress that affects health-related quality of life.

Diabetes has a high burden of illness both in life years lost and in disability through related co-morbidities. Accurate assessment of the non-mortality burden requires appropriate health-related quality of life and summary utility measures of which there are several contenders. (Glasziou et al., 2007)

Chronic liver disease, either viral disease (hepatitis B and C), cholestatic disease (primary biliary cirrhosis or primary sclerosing cholangitis), or hepatocellular disease, substantially reduces HRQL, and this impact does not differ markedly by type of disease. Older age and measures of disease severity were associated with poorer HRQL. (Younossi et al., 2001)

Childhood epilepsy is one of the most important and prevalent neurological conditions in the developing years. Persons with childhood onset epilepsy are at a high risk for poor psychosocial outcomes, even without experiencing comorbidities. The goal of management of children with epilepsy should be to enable the child and the family to lead a life as free as possible from the medical and psychosocial complications of epilepsy .Other factors such as social, psychological, behavioral, educational, and cultural dimensions of their lives affect children with epilepsy, their families and their close social networks.

Assessing HRQL in childhood cancer survivors, in particular, is a new field of research. Studies of survivors of leukemia and brain tumors are of special interest since these are the commonest groups of survivors of cancer in childhood. Initial reports suggest that most of the survivors of childhood cancer are in good health with a normal psychosocial status, social life and capacity to cope with activities of daily living. (Calaminus G and Kiebert G, 1999)

End-stage renal failure (ESRF) is a life-threatening condition and survival can be maintained only with renal replacement therapy. Furthermore, the complications of ESRF, its treatment and co-existing diseases have been found to have a significant impact on the physical health of patients. It is well documented that the health status of the renal patient population is worse than that of the general healthy population; for this reason the assessment of quality of life of ESRF patients has received considerable attention.(PhillipsL,2001)

The Aim of Work

The Aim of this Work:

The purpose of this study was to clarify the correlations between the chronic diseases and psychological distress and health-related quality of life (HRQL).