



Is quality of life among hemodialysis patients different in various countries?

Behzad Einollahi¹, Mohsen Motalebi^{1*}

Hemodialysis (HD) and quality of life (QoL) are the important subjects of dialysis patients. The article entitled “Quality of life in dialysis patients” by Ayoub and Hijjazi (1) focused on evaluating QoL in HD patients by applying and comparing 36-item short form health survey (SF-36) and the QoL index dialysis version questionnaire in their country. It is interesting that Ayoub and his colleague (1) showed gender had no effect on HD patients’ QoL, while we showed in a study on 6,930 HD patients (2) by using SF-36 questionnaire (general core) and kidney disease component summary (KDCCS, disease specific core) that males had better QoL than that of females. Zender and Olshansky (3) have also reported a lower QoL in women compared to men; in addition, they showed a high prevalence of psychological disorders with more severity that it can lead to lower QoL in females. However, it seems many factors such as perception of social support, healthy behaviors and outlooks, religious conviction etc. are different among countries between both genders.

Although Ayoub and Hijjazi (1) reported advanced age had no adverse effect on QoL, we showed that the elderly patients had significantly lower scores of all QoL scales, except for social supports that no significant difference was observed (2). Moreover, they showed no significant correlation between age and the total scores of the SF-36, while in our study staff encouragements was significantly better among middle-aged patients (45-60 years old) and patients’ satisfaction was significantly increased with older age (2). It may be due to expectations which decrease with increasing age.

In addition, Ayoub and Hijjazi (1) reported that there was no significant relationship between educational level and QoL in both questionnaires, while we found a significant association between the higher educational level and better scores on all domains except for the quality of social interactions, dialysis staff encouragement and patients’ satisfaction that were decreased in patients

■ Implication for health policy/practice/research/medical education

Hemodialysis (HD) and quality of life (QoL) are the important subjects of dialysis patients. It is possible that various factors such as perception of social support, healthy behaviors and outlooks, religious conviction affect QoL in hemodialysis patients.

with high educational level. Maybe using short volume of patients is reason of this difference between two studies. It is important to be noted that in the current study, patient with duration of dialysis more than three months was excluded from the study. Bayoumi *et al.* showed that dialysis duration was a negative predictor for QoL (4). We have also found that there was a significant correlation between QoL and dialysis duration so that more dialysis duration had lower QoL. Thus, it seems to be better that Ayoub and Hijjazi included the patients with at least three months dialysis duration to interference this important factor.

Authors’ contributions

All authors contributed to paper equally.

Ethical considerations

Ethical issues (including plagiarism, informed consent, misconduct, double publication and redundancy) have been completely observed by authors.

Conflict of interests

The authors declared no competing interests.

Funding/Support

No funding from any source.

References

1. Ayoub AM, Hijjazi KH. Quality of life in dialysis

- patients from the United Arab Emirates. *J Family Community Med.* 2013; 20(2): 106-12.
2. Rostami Z, Einollahi B, Lessan-Pezeshki M, Soleimani Najaf Abadi A, Mohammadi Kebar S, Shahbazian H, *et al.* Health-Related Quality of Life in Hemodialysis Patients: An Iranian Multi-Center Study. *Nephro Urol Mon* 2013; 5(4): 901-12.
 3. Zender R, Olshansky E. Women's mental health: depression and anxiety. *Nurs Clin North Am* 2009; 44(3): 355-64.
 4. Bayoumi M, Al Harbi A, Al Suwaida A, Al Ghonaim M, Al Wakeel J, Mishkiry A. Predictors of quality of life in hemodialysis patients. *Saudi J Kidney Dis Transpl* 2013; 24(2): 254-9.

Please cite this paper as: Einollahi B, Motalebi M. Is Quality of life among hemodialysis patients different in various countries? *J Parathyroid Dis* 2014; 2(2): 63-64.

Copyright © 2014 The Author(s); Published by Nickan Research Institute. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.