



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Early pre-dialysis education helps peritoneal dialysis patients to have better employment prospect

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Introduction

According to the statistics from Hong Kong Hospital Authority (HA) in February 2014, HA is caring 5286 dialysis patients. Among the 5286 patients, 3802 (72%) of them are receiving peritoneal dialysis (PD). Majority of these patients are stable patients and it includes patients in the labour force. Low employment rate has been known to be one of the undesirable facts on kidney diseases patients. In order to promote better rehabilitation in PD patients, we tried to explore the factors contributing to better employment in PD patients. We analysed the employment status of our new PD patients who entering PD program since 1 January 2011. We found that the PD patients who had received pre-dialysis education at a time earlier than six months before dialysis is associated with better employment rate.

Objectives

1. To investigate contributing factors on employment in PD patients. 2. To identify health care interventions that can improve the employment rate in PD patients. 3. To promote employment in PD patients.

Methodology

1. Review the employment status of all new PD patients. 2. Identify the factors associate with better employment. 3. Suggest strategies on promoting employment in PD patients.

Result

We had 208 new PD patients in the review period. Seventy-five of them were in the labour force (excluding housewives, age 18-60), among them, sixty-three patients (84%) attended the pre-dialysis education programs. We divided the patients into three groups for analysis: attended education programs earlier than six months before PD (Group A), attended education programs within six months of PD (Group B) and attended no education program before PD (Group C). The employment rate in Group A, B and C are 43.5%, 27.5% and 16.7% respectively. We conclude that early treatment plan, especially the implementation of early pre-dialysis education

strategies, for chronic kidney disease patients may allow better rehabilitation and employment prospect.