

Analysis of Characteristics of patients affected by pathology of the diabetic foot of ASP Palermo territorial polyambulator



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Biography

Maria Concetta Cataldo has experience in evaluating the foot problems of patients with diabetes. In her clinical practice, she has developed a diagnostic-therapeutic path characterized by a multidimensional evaluation aimed at exploring therefore the needs related to the diagnosis and treatment of foot ulcers, relating them to the clinical problems of the patients and at the same time paying particular attention to her family context. She began her activity in the emergency area of the University Hospital of Palermo. She later acquired specific knowledge on the care dynamics of the territory as Head of an integrated home care team. The analysis of the patient made as a whole has made it possible to put the real needs of each individual patient at the center of the treatment process and also to take into consideration her expectations. With this approach to problems, she follows diabetic patients with foot ulcers on an outpatient basis.

Abstract

"Diabetic foot" plays a major role in diabetology from both the clinical and social perspectives. Consequence of its macro/ micro vascular and neuropathic complications is among the leading causes of hospitalization and not traumatic lower limb amputations. Patients with foot ulcers suffer also a reduction of their quality of life.

Aim: To describe diabetic patients' characteristics suffering from foot ulcers who access territorial care.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: we conducted an descriptive retrospective observational study of patients with ulcerate the foot. Personal and socio-sanitary data were recorded. Also duration of the disease, practiced therapy and foot conditions: skin, monofilament pressure sensitivity, trans-cutaneous oxygen pressure, vibrator sensitivity to biotonometer and Ankle Brachial Pressure Index (ABPI) evaluation. As a marker of glycemic remedy we analyzed the value of HbA1C. They were analyzed as cardiovascular risk factors hypertension and Body Mass Index (BMI). Foot injuries have been classified with the University of Texas Wound Classification System. The correlations between patient foot injuries and variables have been analyzed, such as comorbidity with the Cumulative Illness Rating Scale (CIRS), BMI.

Findings: Our study shown a greater incidence of foot injuries in diabetic patients with simultaneous serious illnesses compared to the severity of a single pathology. The gender is not relevant characteristic to the HbA1c values. Conclusion & Significance: the comorbidity showed to be a significant risk factor compared to other characteristic examined. We consider it useful to launch health promotion programs by organizing self-help groups, involving care-givers in the management of the disease.

Publications

1. Effectiveness of a follow-up program in diabetic patients with foot ulcers.
2. A healthy physical exercise.
3. Diabetes and disability: Observational study on functional recovery in patients in integrated home care.
4. Comparative study on the rehabilitation results of patients in integrated home care: Comparison between the traditional rehabilitation method with training and the use of personalized exercises during treatment.
5. Association of total serum cholesterol with functional outcome following home care rehabilitation in Italian patients with stroke.

