

Holiday Patients Portugal: a database available for patient's service

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Introduction

There is increasing recognition of the importance of patient-centred outcomes for those receiving dialysis. Although many factors contribute to patient well-being on dialysis, one of the equal important is the patient himself be a productive individual without loss of identity and self-confidence by maintaining their employment. Factors associated with variation in dialysis patient employment have focused primarily on individual-level factors. However, recent studies have shown that outside outcomes such as services-level variables might also influence the patient employment status. We investigated these trends to discuss an encouraging example of this influence.

Objectives

- To understand the potential of a service that uses a national database to support dialysis patient mobility and its possible association with increased employment rates;
- To identify the potential of a service that uses a national database to support dialysis patient mobility and its impact in the well-being of the person on haemodialysis treatment.

Methods

Descriptive, single holistic case study design was adopted and data collection was made by semi-structured interview. Content analysis was used to interpret meaning from the content of text data and, hence, adhere to the naturalistic paradigm. The qualitative research presented as the most appropriated method as it provides the opportunity to explore the experiences and live stories of an active female adult about the dialysis treatment and her daily struggles to cope with her job as travelling merchant with the support and assistance from Holiday Patients Portugal database.

Results

Female, Portuguese, mother, 51 years old, in haemodialysis since 2015 with background of peritoneal dialysis and transplant, have a functioning arteriovenous fistulae (left wrist), labouring, travelling merchant. Being restricted by her renal dialysis treatment, medical condition and surrounding environment, our participant indicated that she requires assistance with her routine. She expressed the family support and also the labour network as fundamental to cope with her daily live. Mainly her daughter and her supervisor/director who were surrounded by gratitude and belief feelings. Formal caregivers' staff, clinical know-how and exceptional organisation enables her to be a productive individual without loss of identity by maintaining the employment status. The service of the private dialysis clinic, Holiday Patients Portugal, was pointing out as the mainly factor.

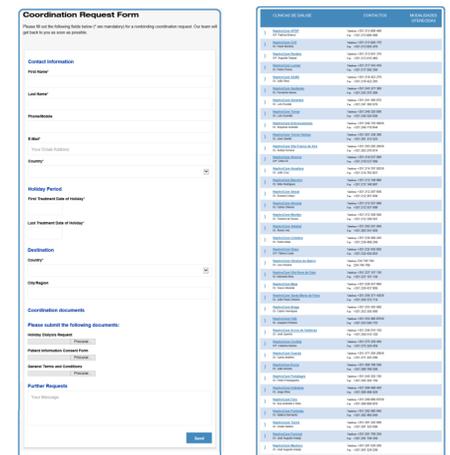
Conclusion

The most motivating and noteworthy finding of this study is that the loss of employment is not an inevitable consequence of ESRD for working-age individuals. And the service of the private dialysis centres, Holiday Patients Portugal, was validated as an efficiency tool with solid fundamentals structure and performance. The data also indicate the importance of promoting the remunerated employment of patients on dialysis as a means to enhancing autonomy, self-care and self-esteem. A strand that continues to be an important improvement needed in the well-being of a dialysis patient.

References

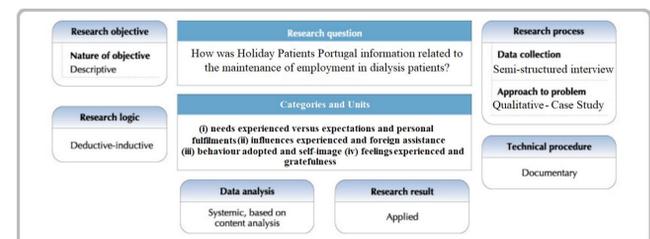
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37 Dialysis Centres

Since 1993, Portugal, had a progressive increase of dialysis centres reaching the present day with 37 centres distributed throughout the Portuguese territory, mainland and islands. The Holiday Patients Portugal holds the database of this network of centres that have a national coverage.

Holiday Patients Portugal - Geographic Distribution and Request Form



Categories	Registration Units	Context Units
Feelings experienced	Needs	"One day my daughter stopped seeing and I had to buy a pair of glasses for 270 euros. You must have money for those things"
Influences experienced and Foreign Assistance	Motivation	"I am indebted to them"
Expectation and Personal Fulfilment	Gratefulness	"So far Holiday Patients has never failed"
	Caregivers aid	"In the clinics I am always very well received"
	Aspirations	"When I started dialysis I dismiss my job but my headmistress and the nurses said that I 'Be a good person pays off'"
	Self-worth and Pride	"My daughter takes pride of her mother. It was I who pay for the course, all alone [...]"
		"I like to stay pretty, go to the dentist"

Research Framework and Categorization Matrix