

COMPARISON OF SELF-CARE ABILITY AND LIFE SATISFACTION IN PATIENTS RECEIVING DIALYSIS

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Purpose

Chronic kidney disease is a significant health problem which negatively affects the quality of life, psychosocial well-being, support systems and physiological parameters of individuals. This study aimed to compare peritoneal dialysis patients and hemodialysis patients who had green card or were eligible for Social Security Institution (SSI) benefits in terms of self-care ability and life satisfaction.

Material and methods

A total of 89 patients receiving hemodialysis (HD; 35 patients with green card, 54 patients eligible for SSID) and 38 peritoneal dialysis (PD) patients were included in the study. The data were collected using a 28-item socio-demographic Questionnaire, Turkish Self-Care Ability Scale and The Satisfaction With Life Scale (SWLS) that were prepared by the research group. The groups were compared with each other in terms of socio-demographic characteristics, self-care ability and life satisfaction.

Results

The number of women in PD patients was significantly higher than HD groups ($p = 0.023$). The number of HD patients with green card who could perform their activities of daily living was significantly lower than those HD and PD patients with SSI ($p = 0.000$). It was found that the number of patients with SSI living in their own dwellings was higher than the other groups ($p = 0.000$), and HD patients who had green card were going out less to eat ($p = 0.018$). A statistically significant difference was found in terms of self-care ability levels between the groups ($p = 0.001$). As a result of post-hoc pairwise comparisons, it was found that self-care ability levels of HD patients who had green card were lower than those PD and HD patients with SSI. There was no significant difference in life satisfaction levels of the groups ($p=0.105$).

Conclusion

The HD patients with green card had lower self-care abilities than other HD and PD patients ($p=0.001$). The study suggested that socio-economic and cultural conditions rather than chronic diseases might have a negative impact on this low levels of self-care ability.