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RELATIONSHIP OF SELF-EFFICACY WITH THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF TYPE 2 DIABETES PATIENTS

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ABSTRACT

Life style changes in diabetic patients are mandatory in the management of the disease to maintain the blood glucose levels within normal limits and prevent complications. Self-efficacy of the DM patients will persuade them in making decisions about their self-care management. This study was aimed to determine the DM patients' self-efficacy and its' relationship with quality of life of them. A cross sectional, descriptive design was adopted and data was collected from 100DM patients using a self-administered Diabetes Management Self-Efficacy Scale (DMSES) and the Medical Outcomes Study Short Form (SF-36) Health Survey is used to assess quality of life. The results showed that 84% of patients with good self-efficacy have a good quality of life, the chi-square test revealed a positive correlation with self-efficacy and quality of life ($p < 0.01$), which says that the DM patients with good self-efficacy have good quality of life. Appropriate and systematic education is essential to improve self-efficacy and improve the quality of life of diabetic patients.

KEYWORDS

Diabetes mellitus, Self-efficacy, Quality of life, Diabetes Management Self- Efficacy Scale (DMSES) and Medical outcomes study short form (SF-36) health survey.

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INTRODUCTION

Diabetes is a complicated condition that needs long-term care. Diabetes patients may undergo both physical and psychological changes. Changes in vision, peripheral nerves, blood vessels of the heart, bodily weakness and peripheral vascular disease are among the physical changes that occur¹. While

psychological changes such as worry, melancholy, hopelessness, and criticism about the disease might occur, the complexities of the challenges that diabetes patients face might lead to alterations in their quality of life². Lower quality of life and psychological issues can exacerbate metabolic illnesses, both directly and indirectly through hormonal stress response³.

Self-efficacy is a person's belief in his ability to systematize and carry out specific actions in order to get the desired results. Self-efficacy enables a person to make well-informed decisions and to stick to the course of action. In the long or short term, self-efficacy can be anticipated to have a good quality of life⁴. Individuals with diabetes require self-management and self-efficacy in order to plan the nutrition, blood sugar control, physical activity, medications, and diabetes care in general^{3,5}. As the self-efficacy will assist DM patients in managing and controlling their health status, lack of self-efficacy in a person with this chronic disease will have a negative impact on their quality of life^{5,6}.

Through there has been numerous research that show a link between self-care activities and blood glucose control among DM patients^{7,8}, for diabetics, adopting self-care behaviours remains a difficulty always⁹⁻¹¹. Diabetes control necessitates self-management and person suffering from diabetes have a lower quality of life than someone with no chronic illnesses. As self-efficacy is a good predictor of diabetes self-management behaviours, the purpose of this study was to determine the self-efficacy and its' relationship with quality of life of type 2 diabetes mellitus patients.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A cross sectional, descriptive design was adopted and data was collected from 100 DM type 2 patients who were selected using purposive sampling technique. A modified Diabetes Management Self-Efficacy Scale (DMSES) with minor demographic adjustments was used to collect the data. The Medical Outcomes Study Short Form (SF-36) Health Survey is used to assess quality of life. The patients who were not hospitalized during the interview and have no history of any psychological disorders

such as mood and anxiety disorder was included for the study. The information gathered is processed and analyzed using SPSS software and a chi-square test with a significance level of 5%. (0.05).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

According to Table No.1, the most of the patients are in the age category 46-55 years old, with 39(39%) being female and 61 being male (61%). In terms of education, around 37 patients (37%) studied up to high school. 31(31%) patients are housewives, with the majority suffering from diabetes for less than 10 years (about 64%). The results show that the type -2 DM was high among with patients aged between 46-55 years, males have more frequency of DM and 64% of patients had the disease for less than 10 years.

The results showed that 84% of patients with good self-efficacy have a good quality of life, while 29.5% of patients with low self-efficacy have a good quality of life. This may be because of various other reasons such as good social support, financial ease etc. To elicit the difference, a longitudinal study can be done. The chi-square test revealed a positive correlation with self-efficacy and quality of life ($p < 0.01$), which says that the DM patients with good self-efficacy have good quality of life. The findings are in line with research conducted by Gao J *et al*, (2013)¹¹, which found that the majority of patients with type 2 diabetes (71.43%) have low levels of self-efficacy, but another study found that more than half of respondents (52.7%) have high levels of self-efficacy¹².

Table No.1: The Characteristics of Type 2 Diabetic patients

| S.No | Characteristics | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Age | | | |
| 1 | 26-35 years | 7 | 7 |
| 2 | 36-45 years | 33 | 33 |
| 3 | 46-55 years | 38 | 38 |
| 4 | 56-65 years | 22 | 22 |
| Sex | | | |
| 5 | Female | 39 | 39 |
| 6 | Male | 61 | 61 |
| Level of education | | | |
| 7 | Primary School | 24 | 24 |
| 8 | Middle School | 17 | 17 |
| 9 | High School | 37 | 37 |
| 10 | Higher sec. School | 20 | 20 |
| 11 | Bachelor Degree | 2 | 2 |
| Job | | | |
| 12 | Unemployed/ Housewife | 31 | 31 |
| 13 | Government employee | 11 | 11 |
| 14 | Private employee | 15 | 15 |
| 15 | Self Employed | 23 | 23 |
| 16 | Retired | 19 | 19 |
| Suffering from diabetes | | | |
| 17 | Less than 10 years | 64 | 64 |
| 18 | More than 10 years | 36 | 36 |

Table No.2: Relationship between Self-efficacy and Quality of Life among Diabetic Patients

| S.No | Self-Efficacy | Quality of life | | Total | p |
|------|---------------|-----------------|-----|-------|------|
| | | Good | Low | | |
| 1 | Good | 19 | 3 | 22 | 0.01 |
| 2 | Low | 23 | 55 | 78 | |
| 3 | Total | 42 | 58 | 100 | |

CONCLUSION

The main aims of diabetes management are to prevent microvascular and macrovascular problems and to decrease mortality and financial costs due to diabetes. Based on the findings of the present study, the self-efficacy and self-management of DM patients are most vital as well as it improves the quality of life of the patients. Hence, it is mandatory to improve the patient - provider communication and knowledge of patients regarding self-management of diabetic patients.

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest. The funders had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript, or in the decision to publish the results.

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