



Suprapubic Catheter Impact on Quality of Life for Patients and Caregivers

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Abstract #
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Aim

- We are trying to determine the impact of suprapubic catheter (SPC) on the quality of life for the caregivers of patients who needed catheterization when compared to the patient’s quality of life.

Introduction

- Suprapubic catheterization (SPC) plays an important role in managing urinary symptoms, especially retention of urine in the neurogenic bladder.
- When patients are not able to volitionally void, clean intermittent catheterization is the best choice.
- However, this may be not convenient in many circumstances.
- It may be difficult or not feasible, especially for caregivers to perform as scheduled.
- CIC may not even be convenient for many patients
- SPC may offer an acceptable alternative to these patients.
- Advantages of SPC include:
 - it provides easy access to the catheter,
 - prevents trauma and erosion to the urethra,
 - and is associated with improved quality of life for patients.
- However, many of these patients are usually dependent on caregivers to provide their care. In this study, we prove that SPC improves the quality of life for caregivers for these patients.

Results

- Both patients and caregivers reported PGI-I more than 86%
- Both recommended SPC to others in patients with similar condition

patients	
Number	36
Female	19
Male	17
Age	58.8 +/- 19.7 yo
Cerebral palsy	4
Spinal cord injury	10
Other neurogenic bladder	6
Dementia and mental challenges	19

	Patients %	Caregivers %
Improved	86	87
worse	6	0
No improvement	8	13
Recommend it again	83	87
QOL improved	86	87
hematuria	30	
Difficulty with silicone catheter	70	

Methods and Materials

- A quality-control review for patients who were managed by clean intermittent catheterization or urethral catheterization and subsequently had placement of a SPC.
- Questionnaires were collected at 3 months and 6 months post-placement. Questionnaires were used to assess the patient’s and caregivers’ quality of life after being familiarized with SPC care and education.
- Patients and their caregivers completed the validated **Patient Global Impression of Improvement (PGI-I)** questionnaire written if possible and verbally if not possible.
- Caregivers and patients were asked if they would **recommend the SPC again for their patients.**
- PGI-I include the following answers (very much better, much better, a little better, no change, a little worse, much worse, very much worse)
- When answers were much improved, or improved, they were placed in one category. When answered little worse, much worse, or very much worse, they were placed in one category.

Conclusions

- SPC offers a good option for the management of urologic conditions associated with retention of urine in properly selected patients.
- It may help to improve the quality of life of these patients and their caregivers.
- When thinking about treatment options for patients with neurogenic bladder and retention of urine, One should consider the caregivers’ responsibility and their quality of life.
- In patients who are dependent on caregivers to provide care, the quality of life of caregivers may negatively affect patient care if not appropriately addressed.
- It is important to keep this in mind in the management decision process to improve compliance with patient care.
- Improvement of caregivers’ quality of life will improve their involvement in patients’ care and their compliance with care.

References

Lavelle R et al. **Quality of life after suprapubic catheter placement in patients with neurogenic bladder conditions.** Volume 35, issue 7, September 2016.Pages 831-835