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Factors affecting quality of life in patients with lymphatic neoplastic disorders (Leukemia & Lymphoma)

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Introduction: The goal of treating chronic diseases including blood malignancies is to prolong the duration of life and improving the capabilities of patients as much as possible to enable patients to live their lives with reasonable quality of life. While most studies that are done for evaluation of treatments of various diseases focus on prolongation of life alone and miss out on other factors such as quality of life and other side effects of treatment.

Method and materials: For evaluation of patients with leukemia and lymphoma referring to Imam Khomeini Hospital a cross-sectional study was done in 2014 among 94 patients. Convenience sampling was done from those referring to the hematology outdoor clinic of Imam Khomeini General Hospital. The SF-36 questionnaire was filled by patients with leukemia or lymphoma (at least 6 months had passed since their diagnosis).

Results: In this study SF-36 questionnaires were filled by individuals with lymphoma and leukemia. The interviewees (n=94) were of 16 to 75 years of age with mean age of 31.6 ± 14.7 years. By dividing the patients into these two groups (patients with aggressive and non-aggressive type with better prognosis), it was shown that except for physical functioning ($P > 0.576$) a significant difference existed between all domains, such that patients with non-aggressive disease had higher scores in all factors. No significant difference was seen in the domains except for social functioning (SF) ($P < 0.007$) and role physical (RP) ($P < 0.027$) among the individuals studied, in which men had higher scores than women.

Discussion: The results of this study show that the nature of the disease, sex, level of education and income are prognostic factors for quality of life in patients with lymphatic system neoplasm.

The main determinants for subjective well-being from adults with developmental disabilities: How to enhance the perceived quality of life?

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Governments consider the enhancement of the quality of life as an implicit touchstone of the effects of their policies, also in the population of adults with developmental disabilities. Whether and to what extent the quality of life is improved through government intervention is a question that's rather difficult to answer. The two main reasons for this are on the one hand the measurement of policy effects and on the other hand the interpretation of the concept "quality of life". In our contribution, we focus on the use of a subjective indicator, i.e. the study of the general satisfaction.

We used the framework of resource-theory on subjective well-being as a basis for our analysis of the main determinants of the general subjective well-being, people's evaluation of life as a whole. In order to study this, we use the data from the survey "Sociaal-Culturele Verschuivingen in Vlaanderen". It is a large scale yearly face-to-face survey within the population of the Flemish region in Belgium during the period of 2008-2015. More specifically, our analysis applies to the empirical data of 11 745 adult citizens spread over the Flemish region. Within this population 18,8% reported some kind of a disability or social disfunction because of their health. Given the size of the population, we can analyse the lower level of subjective well-being within this specific group compared to the general population.

In order to find these main determinants of the general subjective well-being, we took a wide range of variables into account and, applying a multivariate regression analysis, we tried to determine their relative importance. The main objective of our enquiry was to investigate to what extent government policy can enhance the perceived quality of life.

Pathways to understand life quality among hearing parents with deaf or hard-of-hearing (D/HH) children in Germany

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Background: It is important to understand the positive perspective (i.e., wellbeing) from family with disabled children, especially hearing parents with deaf or hard-of-hearing (D/HH) children, to improve their quality of life. The aim of the study is to understand whether the risk factors (i.e., level and cause of deafness from the children) and children happiness will give impact to the subjective wellbeing (SWB) and life satisfaction of parents with D/HH children.

Methods: We used a survey method using Personal Wellbeing Index for Adults to measure the life quality and administered to 60 hearing parents from school-aged children grade⁴, to⁶, from the D/HH special schools in Saxony, Germany.

Findings: The scale PWI-A showed good internal consistency reliability and validity. The relationship from the level of children deafness showed nonsignificant effect to the parents' SWB and life satisfaction. The interaction from the cause of children deafness to life satisfaction was weak and statistically not significant. Whereas perceived D/HH children happiness has a significant correlation to cause of deafness and SWB. Therefore, we conclude that cause of deafness partially mediated the perceived D/HH children happiness to SWB and SWB fully mediated the cause of children deafness to the parents' life satisfaction relationship.

Discussion: Perceived D/HH children happiness and cause of deafness of the D/HH child has a strong influence to the hearing parents' life quality. Parents' SWB represents an appropriate mechanism to explain the relationship between the cause of children