

Unpleasant Symptom Clusters Among Patients With Chronic Kidney Disease

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Introduction: Patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) report multiple symptoms. The unpleasant symptom clusters among Thai patients with CKD are still unclear.

Purpose: To identify symptom clusters among patients with chronic kidney

Methods: The study design is descriptive research. Based on the Theory of Unpleasant Symptoms. The sample consisted of 150 patients with stage 3-4 chronic kidney disease who received care at an outpatient chronic kidney disease clinic of a tertiary hospital in the northeastern region of Thailand. Data were collected from January to March 2016. Research instruments included the patient data record form and the unpleasant symptom assessment. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and factor analysis.

Results: Results revealed an additional symptom cluster aside from those included in the evaluation, which is burning pain on the legs and feet, which totaled to 28 unpleasant symptoms in patients with stage 3-4 of chronic kidney disease, with an average of 7.44 (SD= 3.76). These symptoms could be categorized into 6 core symptom clusters according to the dimensions of frequency, severity and both in the dimensions of 43.536 percent, 42.924 percent, and 41.647 percent, respectively. Each symptom clusters comprised of 2-5 unpleasant symptoms, including symptom cluster of the mental and emotional condition, peripheral nerves abnormality, fatigue, gastro-intestinal tract problem, pain, and uremic symptom. Each group has an internal consistency as well as Cronbach's alpha between .81 and .91. The top 3 symptom clusters that were able to describe the variance among each dimensions included symptom clusters of the mental and emotional condition, peripheral nerves abnormality and fatigue.

Conclusion: This study exhibits the similarity of unpleasant symptom clusters across the dimensions of frequency, severity and frequency along with severity in stage 3-4 chronic kidney disease patients. Nurses could use dimension as a mean to assess the unpleasant symptoms and develop a care plan to manage symptom clusters as found in this study, especially among the top 3 symptom clusters that can explain the highest variance.

Title:

Unpleasant Symptom Clusters Among Patients With Chronic Kidney Disease

Keywords:

assessment of symptom clusters, chronic kidney disease and symptom cluster

References:

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Abstract Summary:

Six core symptom were consistently identified across all symptom dimensions is the mental and emotional condition, peripheral nerves abnormality, fatigue, gastro-intestinal tract problem, pain, and uremic symptom. Nurses can assess the dimensions of each symptom clusters and plan the management according specifically.

Content Outline:

Introduction: Patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) report multiple symptoms. The unpleasant symptom clusters among Thai patients with CKD are still unclear.

Body

Main point 1

Purpose: To identify symptom clusters among patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD)

Main point 2

Methods: The study design is descriptive research. Based on the Theory of Unpleasant Symptoms. The sample consisted of 150 patients with stage 3-4 chronic kidney disease who received care at an outpatient chronic kidney disease clinic of a tertiary hospital in the northeastern region of Thailand. Data were collected from January to March 2016. Research instruments included the patient data record form

and the unpleasant symptom assessment. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and factor analysis.

Main point 3

Results: The patients with CKD stage 3-4 had 28 unpleasant symptoms, with an average of 7.44 (SD= 3.76). These symptoms could be categorized into six symptom clusters with a cumulative statistical variance in the frequency dimension, severity dimension, and both frequency and severity dimensions of 43.536%, 42.924%, and 41.647%, respectively. Included the symptom cluster of the mental and emotional condition, peripheral nerves abnormality, fatigue, gastro-intestinal tract problem, pain, and uremic symptoms. Among three symptom dimensions, the three symptom clusters of the mental and emotional condition, peripheral nerve abnormality, and fatigue could orderly explain the highest variance.

Conclusion: As this study exhibits the similarity of symptom clusters across three dimensions of unpleasant symptom in stage 3-4 CKD patients, nurses could use either dimension to assess unpleasant symptoms and develop care plan to manage symptom clusters as found in this study.

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