

Chronic Kidney Disease and Health Literacy

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Abstract

We have read the article titled "Evaluation of The Awareness of Chronic Kidney Disease Among Patients Receiving Hemodialysis" prepared by Salman et al. with great interest.

Low level of health literacy is a worldwide public health problem. This causes people to do wrong medical practice, not to recognize diseases and to reach the right treatment when they get sick³. Salman et al. reported that chronic kidney disease awareness of the patients receiving hemodialysis was low. In another study, the authors suggested that health literacy may be important, especially in the access of patients scheduled for transplantation and in the management of comorbidities

Key words: Chronic Kidney Disease, Health Literacy

We have read the article titled "Evaluation of The Awareness of Chronic Kidney Disease Among Patients Receiving Hemodialysis" prepared by Salman et al. with great interest¹. We thank the authors for this informative and successful manuscript. We also would like to mention a few important points about awareness of disease among patients and health literacy.

In 1974, the concept of health literacy was first used by Simonds². The widespread use of the concept took more than 20 years. The concept of health literacy is used to assess people's knowledge of health practices, their ability to interpret health-related information, and their ability to access that information³. Low level of health literacy is a worldwide public health problem³. This causes people to do wrong medical practice, not to recognize diseases and to reach the right treatment when they get sick³.

Salman et al. reported that chronic kidney disease awareness of the patients receiving hemodialysis was low¹. Similarly, Taylor et al. showed that health literacy is associated with adverse clinical events, increased healthcare use, and mortality among patient with chronic kidney disease in their systematic review published in 2018⁴. Another study investigated the relationship between self-management and decision-making skills and health literacy in patients with chronic kidney disease⁵. In this study, the authors suggest-

ed that health literacy may be important, especially in the access of patients scheduled for transplantation and in the management of comorbidities⁵.

References

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