

Knowledge and practice among patients with diabetic foot complications in Orthopaedic Department in Kuala Lumpur Hospital.

Thair Mousa, Jalal Ebrahim, Hasanain Faisal Ghazi, Maged Elnajeh
International Medical School, Management and Science University

Abstract

Diabetes mellitus is a silent disease and is now recognized as one of the fastest growing threats to public health in almost all countries of the world. One of the important complications of diabetes mellitus is the foot related complications. Diabetic foot is the most common cause of hospitalization in diabetic patient. Increase the knowledge and awareness of Diabetic foot complication in diabetic patient could be one of the preventable measures. The aim of this study is to assess the level of knowledge and practice regarding foot care among patients with diabetic foot complications. A cross-sectional study performed on patients who attended the diabetic foot clinic and for those admitted for diabetic foot complications from the 1st September 2015 to 25th September 2015. The patients were interviewed with a questionnaire of 15 'yes' or 'no' questions, on foot care knowledge and practice. Score of 1 was given for each 'yes' answer and 0 for a 'no' answer. The level of knowledge and practice were categorized into good, satisfactory or poor. The result was tested using chi-square in SPSS version 21. A total of 150 patients were included in this study. There were 75 male (50.0%) and 75 female (50.0%) with the majority of patients were over 55 years old (113 patients, 75.3%). Majority of the patients (64.0%) had poor foot care knowledge while 75 patients (50.0%) had poor foot care practice. In conclusion, based on our cross-sectional study that was done, most diabetic patients still have poor knowledge and practice regarding their diabetic foot care. Educational strategies regarding foot care should be emphasized and empowered within the diabetic population.

Keywords: Knowledge and practice, Diabetic foot care, Malaysia