E-Poster

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ITB Pump Refill Service at a Supraregional Spinal Unit - Patient and Health Workers Experience

Topic: Miscellaneous

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BACKGROUND

Intrathecal baclofen (ITB) pump is one of the methods of managing spasticity. Patients are required to regularly visit the clinic for pump refills to top-up the pump reservoir. Although the pump refill process is widely performed, there is paucity of literature on the quality of these services. In this study, we evaluated the ITB pump refill service at a supraregional spinal unit and explored user and healthcare provider perspectives.

METHODS

Data were collected from all patients visiting the outpatients clinic for ITB pump refill looking back at a 10-year period. A total of 21 patients were recruited. Data were analysed using the SPSS version 26.

RESULTS

The average number of refills were 33.85 ± 14.79). In all patients, there was a trend for the ITB pump doses to gradually increase from the initial dose programmed immediately after the pump was surgically placed. In a few patients, there was a sharp drop in the pump dose following a pump change indicating likely issues with pump or catheter. About 71% of patients rated the refill procedure causing 'least discomfort' while the remainder reported 'moderate discomfort'. 90% rated they were 'highly satisfied' with the service while 10% rated it as 'moderately satisfied'. Nurses involved in doing the refill procedures rated 65% as 'least difficult' to perform, 18% were 'moderately difficult', and 17% were 'highly difficult'.

CONCLUSION

ITB dosage trends tend to vary in different patients. Most patients find the refill procedure satisfactory. Almost 40% of refills are difficult to perform and needs further exploration.

Statement of Disclosures

None

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