

Attitude and Quality of life among Patients with Parkinson disease at Prasat Neurological Institute

Jaiklom Chaleevun *, Asawutmangkul Theresa *, Sirikungvalkul Arunee *

* Department of Pharmacy
Jar013@hotmail.com

Background: Parkinson disease is the most common neurodegenerative disorder that must be treated continuously. This may affect the attitude and quality of life of the patients which can influence the outcome of treatment. The study of patients' attitude and quality of life can reveal the major problems in these patients and may establish the guideline for consultation on patients with Parkinson's disease.

Objective: To examine the attitude and quality of life in patients with Parkinson disease at Prasat Neurological Institute.

Methods: The data was collected by self-assessment questionnaire from 161 patients with Parkinson disease, during January 2010 to August 2010. The Hoehn and Yahr scale was used for classified the severity of patients. This study was divided into two parts. They are (1) the attitude of patients on the aspects of medical usage, environmental, physical, and mental conditions and (2) the quality of life in term of mobility, self care, daily activities, pain and anxiety.

Results: From the attitude's scores, we found that 33.54% of them were concerned with the cost of transportation to the hospital (environment condition) and 26.09% on reading drug label (physical condition). Most of them who concerned were the patients in the severer group (stage 3 and 4). In term of mental condition and medical usage, most patients thought that those didn't affect them.

With regarding to the quality of life's scores, we found that patients also had problems on mobility (78.26%), daily activities (74.53%), pain (71.42%), anxiety (71.42%) and self care (52.79%). These problems were found more commonly in patients with Parkinson disease stage 4 and in lesser degree in patients with stage 3, 2 and 1 respectively.

Conclusion: Parkinson disease's patients with higher degree of severity expressed more concern on environmental and physical conditions than the patients with lower degree of severity. They also had more problems with quality of life (ability mobility, self care, daily activities, pain and anxiety) than the others.

Key words: Parkinson's disease, attitude, quality of life