

ORIGINAL PAPER

Health-Related Quality of Life Patients with Diabetes Mellitus and Diabetic Foot in the Southeastern Anatolia Region of Turkey

Özlem Ovayolu, RN, PhD

Assistant Professor , Gaziantep University, Faculty of Health Science, Gaziantep, Turkey

Nimet Ovayolu, RN, PhD

Associate Professor , Gaziantep University, Faculty of Health Science, Gaziantep, Turkey

Sezer İğde, RN

Gaziantep Children's Hospital, Turkey

Serap Parlar Kılıç RN, PhD

Assistant Professor , Gaziantep University, Faculty of Health Science, Gaziantep, Turkey

Correspondence: Özlem Ovayolu, Assistant Professor , Gaziantep University, Faculty of Health Science, Gaziantep, Turkey. E-mail: oucan@gantep.edu.tr

Abstract

Objective: This study was conducted to compare quality of life in two groups and to evaluate its relationship with various parameters.

Methodology: A cross-sectional, population-based study was performed. The study was conducted between May and June 2011 in a hospital located in the Southeastern Anatolia Region. The research population included diabetes mellitus patient (n=99), and patients with diabetic foot ulcers (n=102). The study data was collected using a questionnaire and the Short Form-36. The scale's score may vary from 0-worst possible health status or quality of life to 100-best possible health status or quality of life.

Results: The mean scores of physical component summary (PCS) of the group with diabetic foot ulcers, and the group with diabetes mellitus group were 18.7 ± 13.8 , 32.7 ± 21.3 respectively and the mean scores of mental component summary (MCS) of them were 18.9 ± 12.1 and 32.8 ± 17.7 ($p<0.001$). It was also found that those having another chronic disease besides diabetes, those who fail to have their feet checked regularly, and those who did not receive any training in foot care had both their PCS and MCS scores low.

Conclusions: It was found that diabetes mellitus and diabetic foot ulcers decreased quality of life and patients with diabetic foot ulcers in particular had the lowest quality of life. Therefore, it can be recommended that quality of life of patients with diabetes and those with diabetic foot ulcers in particular should be regularly evaluated, both disease-related and sociodemographic characteristics should be considered in terms of the rate at which they can affect quality of life and more weight should be given to patient training especially in foot care.

Key words: Diabetes mellitus, diabetic foot ulcers, health-related quality of life, Turkey.