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Insulin pump therapy in children and adolescents: Educational program in Bogota Colombia

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Introduction: During the last decades there have been many improvements about how diabetes can be treated and insulin can be delivered. From the development of insulin analogues, pens and thinner needles to insulin pumps. These devices have become safer and more comfortable to be used even by infants and small children and the use of continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion therapy in type 1 diabetic patients has increased.

Objective: To describe the experience of a Center of Pediatric Endocrinology in Bogotá Colombia, where children and adolescents less than 18 years all over the country entered an educational program to learn technical skills to use insulin pump.

Methodology: Near 80 pediatric patients have been trained over 2 years. We describe the process of education, the follow up, facilitators and barriers.

Results: All patients completed three days of theoretical sessions, only a percentage completed the follow up and different reasons were given to explain difficulties, between them familial reasons, medical reasons and obstacles of the health system.

Conclusion: The success of the continuous insulin infusion therapy depends not only on medical reasons. In our country and our experience it depends also on social and administrative circumstances that allow or not an adequate follow up and adjustment of the therapy.

Biography

Camila Cespedes completed her studies in medicine and pediatrics at Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia. Then she passed three and a half years in Lyon France, in the service of pediatric endocrinology of Professor Pierre Chatelein where she completed her Fellowship in pediatric endocrinology. Then she graduated as magister in clinical epidemiology. Now she is Associate Professor at Universidad Javeriana, and works at the university's hospital located in the campus itself and at a center of pediatric endocrinology. Her field of research is clinical endocrinology.

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