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Quality of life and self esteem of Egyptian children with type I diabetes

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Aim: The present study had the purpose for the evaluation of the health related quality of life (HRQoL) and self esteem (SE) of children and adolescents with diabetes mellitus type 1, analyzing the relation between these constructs in this population and comparing these results with those of non diabetic ones, and finding if there is association between metabolic control (Hb A1c) and these psychosocial correlates (HRQoL & SE).

Materials & Methods: Generic Core Scales (GCS) were designed to measure the core health dimensions in both healthy and patient populations. PedsQL 3.0 diabetic module (DM) was developed to measure diabetes-specific HRQoL, for youths with T1DM. Hare Area-Specific Self-Esteem Scale, measures adolescents' feelings about their worth and importance among peers, as students, and as family members.

Results: The mean total HRQoL scale scores (child self report and parent-proxy reports) were 75.42, 72.37 for diabetics and 94.80, 96.83 for healthy ones, with significant difference (<0.001). Also, diabetics showed lower self esteem (2.31) than healthy ones (2.05), as higher scores indicate lower self esteem.

Conclusion: Children with diabetes had lower quality of life than healthy ones in the physical, emotional and social domains. The SE and QoL concepts were correlated, i.e. the better the quality of life of diabetic children the higher the self-esteem.

Biography

Shewikar Farrag is an Egyptian Doctor of Pediatric Nursing who has completed her PhD from Sheffield University, UK in 2005. She is currently working as an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Nursing, Umm Al-Qura University, KSA. She was an international visiting scholar at the university of Wisconsin-Madison, USA in 2004 and an International Fellow at the Africa Regional Sexuality Resource Centre, Nigeria, 2007. She is a peer reviewer for *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* since 2006 and peer reviewer for *The Arab World Version of Kozier and Erb's Fundamentals of Nursing* text book 2011. She is also serving as an Editorial Board Member/Associate Editor at the *Medical Journal of Umm Al-Qura University*, KSA 2013.

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