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Direct medical cost of diabetes mellitus and diabetic ketoacidosis in Adana, Turkey

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Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a common chronic metabolic disease associated with serious complications and significant economic burden. We aimed to investigate direct medical costs of DM and diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA). A total of 136 diabetes patients were included in this retrospective study. The study group consisted of 64 patients with DKA and the control group consisted of 72 diabetes patients without any complications. Invoices of all patients were obtained from the billing department of the institute. The direct medical cost of each patient was calculated according to the costs of drugs (oral anti-diabetics, insulin preparations, antibiotics, intravenous fluids), equipments (catheters, syringes, blood glucose strips), and cost of services (hospitalisation fee, venous access, injection, laboratory services, radiological imaging) in United States Dollars. MedCalc 12.7 software program was used for statistical analyses. Patients with DKA were younger than the patients with diabetes mellitus (35.0 ± 11.1 vs. 54.7 ± 13.2 , $p < 0.001$). The groups were comparable according to gender ($p = 0.17$). Costs of drugs and equipments of the study and control groups were 165.4 ± 62.2 and 141.9 ± 62.3 , respectively. Costs of services were 323.6 ± 141.3 and 253.6 ± 115.0 , respectively. Both of the costs were higher in patients with DKA. The differences were statistically significant ($p = 0.03$, $p = 0.002$, respectively) HbA1c levels were higher in DKA group (10.2 ± 1.1 vs 9.4 ± 1.4 ; $p < 0.001$). HLOS (hospital stay) of groups were comparable (4.3 ± 1.5 vs 4.5 ± 1.0 days; $p = 0.3$). Diabetes imposes a high economic burden on individuals and societies since a substantial amount of money is spent for this disease and its complications worldwide.

Biography

Sakir Ozgur Keskek has completed his education from Istanbul University, Cerahpasa Medical School and Internal Medicine studies from a training and research hospital of Health Ministry in Turkey in 2004. He is Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and the Director of Internal Medicine Clinic of Adana Numune Training and Research Hospital. He has published more than 50 papers in reputed (international and national) journals. He has also more than 100 poster presentations in national and international congresses. He has had education on essential clinical research and good clinical practice. He has been serving as reviewer for more than 20 journals.

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