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Dialysis

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Comparisons of Mental Health and Personal Medical Expenditure between Dialysis and Kidney Transplant Patients : using Korea Health Panel Data

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Background: To investigate and compare the mental health and personal medical expenditure between dialysis and kidney transplant patients, using Korea Health Panel data.

Methods: We received Korea Health Panel data officially and the subjects were the registered 158 kidney disabilities among about 7500 family from year 2008 to year 2013. We conducted Chi-Square and t-test to compare the mental health and personal medical cost between dialysis (the second degree of kidney disabilities) and kidney transplant patients (the fifth degree of kidney disabilities).

Results: Subjects were 158 kidney disabilities including 135 of dialysis(85.4%) and 23 of kidney transplant patients(14.6%). Mean number of having chronic illness and proportion of taking health promotion drug in dialysis and transplant patients were no significant differences. But visit of emergency department were 31.1% in dialysis and 4.4% in transplant patients($p < 0.007$), and the proportion of admission were 47.4% and 26.1%($p = 0.057$), respectively. 'Very much' perceived stress due to illness were 42.5% in dialysis and 20.0%($p = 0.409$), depression 26.6% and 9.5%($p = 0.093$), and suicidal impulse 18.4% and 9.5%($p = 0.323$), respectively. In the medical expenditure, means of the direct personal expenditure including emergency visit, admission, outpatients visit and prescribed drug were 1,947,000 Won in dialysis and 2,080,000 Won kidney transplant patients($p = 0.845$). Means of direct personal expenditure plus indirect expenditure including transportation fee and private nursing care fee were 2,019,000 Won in dialysis and 2,134,000 Won in transplant patients($p = 0.866$).

Conclusion: In mental health and medical expenditure, there is no significant difference between dialysis and kidney transplant patient. However, visit of emergency department in dialysis patients was more frequent than in kidney transplant patients.

Table: Table 4. The characteristics of Personal Medical Expenditures in the Kidney Disabilities

Category		Total	Dialysis	Transplant	t	p
		(n=158)	(n=135)	(n=23)		
Personal medical expenditure 1*	Means	1,966	1,947	2,080	-0.2	0.845
	±SD	±2,252	±2,090	±3,095		
	Minimum	0	0	4		

	Maximum	15,607	12,194	15,607		
Personal medical expenditure 2 **	Means	2,036	2,019	2,134	-0.2	0.866
	±SD	±2,308	±2,162	±3,089		
	Minimum	0	0	185		
	Maximum	15,610	13,179	15,610		

*Personal medical expenditure 1 included direct expenditure (emergency, admission, outpatient and prescribed drug)

**Personal medical expenditure 2 included Personal medical expenditure 1 and indirect expenditure (transportation expenses, and private nursing care fee)

Keywords: Comparison, Dialysis Patients, Mental health, personal medical expenditure, Transplant, visit of emergency department