



Lecture Code : DN01-S3

Session Name : Dialysis Nurse Course 1

Session Topic : -

Date & Time, Place : June 22 (Sun) / 08:30-10:30 / Room 1+2 (GBR 101+102)

만성콩팥병 환자에 대한 의료사회복지 개입: 한림대학교의료원을 중심으로

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Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) is a disease characterized not only by biological deterioration but also by a complex interrelation of psychosocial risk factors, including emotional distress, caregiver burden on families, economic vulnerability, and social isolation. Patients face these challenges throughout the entire course of treatment adaptation, which can lead to decreased treatment adherence and a decline in quality of life (QoL). According to international studies, the health-related quality of life of CKD patients, particularly dialysis patients, is reported to decrease by an average of 0.24 points compared to the general population.¹ Similarly, domestic data indicate that the health-related quality of life of CKD patients is approximately 75% of that of the general population.² To mitigate the diverse risk factors that hinder treatment adaptation and to support stable adjustment throughout the treatment process, a multidimensional intervention that addresses emotional, social, and institutional factors is essential.³⁻⁵ Medical social workers specializing in nephrology play a key role in these interventions by comprehensively assessing patients' and families' psychological responses, family dynamics, economic situations, and social functioning. They support patients through individual counseling, family counseling, educational sessions, linkage to community resources, and facilitation of self-help groups. In the context of organ transplantation, they connect patients experiencing financial difficulties with sponsorship opportunities, assess donors' motivations, and act as mediators throughout the transplantation journey to support patients' reintegration into social life. These interventions are carried out within a structured process encompassing case identification, intensive intervention, and discharge planning. Early case identification is facilitated through an automated referral system based on severity criteria at the initial stage of care. A multidisciplinary team—comprising physicians, nurses, dietitians, and social workers—provides education and counseling to dialysis patients, conducting comprehensive assessments to support their treatment adaptation. Additionally, a customized medical social work platform integrated with the electronic medical

record system allows patients and families to independently explore and utilize community resources according to their specific needs. This structured practice strengthens the consistency and sustainability of social work interventions within the hospital, creating an environment that systematically addresses the psychosocial challenges experienced by dialysis patients during the initiation and maintenance of treatment. This case may serve as a useful reference for the development of multidisciplinary practice models aimed at improving the quality of life for CKD patients and establishing sustainable care systems.

Keywords: Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), Health-Related Quality of Life (HRQoL), Medical Social Work Practice, Integrated Interdisciplinary Care, Structured Case Management