

SELF-EVALUATION CONCERNING DIALYSIS PATIENTS

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Objective: The aim of this research was to present dialysis patients' self-evaluation, because the self-esteem level influences emotions felt, both positive and negative, which in turn may determine the following of treatment instructions, and that certainly is reflected in a somatic condition.

Methods: The study was a randomized controlled trial using a convenience sample of 102 fully informed and consenting patients with end-stage renal disease and 102 people from general population. Instrument comprised was Self-Esteem Inventory.

Results: The results show that there are some differences between dialysis patients and general population as far as self-esteem is concerned. It may be stated that the dialyzed patients have lower self-esteem related to the body, physicality and ability to act and achieve goals. It may be also concluded that self-esteem level of dialyzed patients under 50 years old is higher than of those above 50 years old in terms of: sociability, sense of humor, memory and sense of being accepted by others.

Conclusions: On the basis of the presented study it is possible to claim that there are some differences between dialysis patients and general population as far as self-esteem is concerned. The patients' age is also important factor.

Key words: well-being, self-esteem, dialysis patients