

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with the influence of home enteral tube feeding on the quality of patient's life. The work is divided into the theoretical, and the practical part.

The theoretical part deals with the clinical nutrition topic, it describes the basic components of nutrition and their distribution, energy metabolism, problems of malnutrition, its causes, types, effects, screening and diagnostics. It also describes a system of nutritional care and nutritional team. Further defined the term enteral nutrition and its allocation, indications, contraindications, monitoring of enteral nutrition, description of the types of tube feeding and appropriate appliances. Next part gives attention to problematics and specifications of domestic tube feeding. The last chapter deals with the concept of quality of life, both general definition of the term, and quality of life relative to health and how it could be evaluated.

The practical part deals with research of the quality of life of patients with tube feeding. For evaluating the quality of life I used The Short Form (36) Health Survey. Patients of IV Internal Clinic of General University Hospital in Prague responded to the survey. Results are listed to graphs.

The aim of this thesis, after researching patient's quality of life, was to confirm the assumption that through all physical, mental and social problems which domestic tube feeding brings, and after its application and right usage social functions aren't further reduced. Next aim was to confirm expectation, that after applying of home tube feeding, patient's mental status becomes better. These expectations were confirmed by results of the answer sheet research, Although the research can not be accepted as valid, due to low amount of respondents. For the continuing of a research I recommend to broad the research to more units. And also closer specification of the patient's range etc. by choosing specific diagnosis. By this we can prevent the distortion of result, which is caused by disparateness of patients.

Enteral home tube feeding is a very efficient form of nutritional intervention. It allows domestic therapy for patient, which has positive consequences on his/her mental and overall status. It's also necessary to keep up the importance of overall education and right usage of home enteral tube feeding, which can ease patient's difficult situation.

Keywords: nutritional therapy, enteral nutrition, home tube feeding, quality of life related to health, malnutrition