P35: Older adult's dementia. Implementation of a multidisciplinary day care program in Argentina

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Background: Day care programs for older adults with dementia is an effective strategy that allows prolonging the functionality of the elderly, their support and that of their family reducing home care costs and delaying the institutionalization of patients with cognitive impairment.

Objectives: The aim of the present work is to describe the main goals and the implementation of a multidisciplinary day care program for patients with dementia and their family caregivers in Argentina.

Methods: Design: Prospective cohort study. Subjects: 22 patients and their family caregivers, who attend a day care program in Argentina. Instruments: socio-demographic and psychosocial questionnaire of both patient and caregiver (built ad hoc) Patient: MMSE, GDS, HAD-A, PANAS- VRARG, EQ-5D and instrumental and basic abilities of daily living. Family caregiver: Zarit Burden Interview. Procedure: The intervention for patients consists of two different lines of work, one for the patient, and another for the family member. The activities are coordinated by a multidisciplinary group of professionals. Regarding the caregiver, individual orientation interviews and therapeutic group spaces and psycho-educational material are offered.

Results: Preliminary data of 22 patients and caregivers, who have taken part in the program so far, indicate that: Patient: median age was years 75,27 old (ds = 9,28), % 63,6 of which are woman. The values obtain in the instrument are: MMSE 22,45 (ds = 4,78) GDS 4,47 (ds = 3,73) , HAD-A 3,66 (ds = 3,39) , (PANAS -E-VRARG) Negative items 7,70 (ds = 3,11) (PANAS -E-VRARG) Positive ítems 18,7 (ds = 3,13) , EQ-5D 77,35 (ds = 16,21) and BHDL 93,63 (ds = 13,10) , IHDL 9,1 (ds = 3,31) . And for family caregivers the mean age was 65,27 old (ds = 11,37), % 66,71 of which are woman. Caregivers Zarit Burden Interview mean score was 40, 18 (ds = 11,35).

Discussion: Our findings concur with those presented in scientific literature and support the WHO recommendations regarding the need to implement multidisciplinary programs for patients with dementia and family caregivers, in order to moderate the impact that providing care for an elderly relative with a neurological disease has on them.

P36: Relationship between Attitudes toward Dementia and Deficiency of Social Functioning among Community-dwelling Older Persons

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Objectives: To achieve a dementia-friendly society, it is important to understand the attitudes of community-dwelling people toward dementia and those with dementia. Previous studies have reported an association between reduced interpersonal and social interactions and ageism. This may lead to increased prejudice and intolerance toward dementia and people with dementia. This study examined whether a deficiency in social functioning is associated with attitudes toward dementia among community-dwelling older persons.