

ABSTRACT

Introduction: The coronary heart disease is still an actual topic. The mortality has been in recent years declining, but prevalence in the population stagnates, so involve a large group of patients. The incidence of acute myocardial infarction is still high. One of the methods of reperfusion therapy is the cardiac surgery by coronary artery bypass graft, which may be postoperatively complicated by the development of low cardiac output syndrome with the need of the extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. These patients require very specialized not only during the critical phase, but also during the long-term convalescence including rehabilitation, weaning from the artificial lung ventilation, self-sufficiency training and help with return to normal life.

Literature search: The theoretical part is based on the research of National Medical Library (NLK) and Study and Scientific Library of the Pilsen Region (SVKPL). The PubMed, Scopus, Web of science and Science direct databases were used to search articles in professional publications, including the latest cohort studies. The periodicals Cor et Vasa, the European Heart Journal, Critical Care and the European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing were used. An important source of information is the guidelines of the Czech Society of Cardiology (ČKS), European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO). Also was used the standard of nursing care for patients with ECMO from hospital where I conducted the research.

Methodology: The research is carried out using a qualitative method of unstructured interview with one respondent and his wife. The obtained data are compared with the latest findings, results of cohort studies and respondent medical and nursing documentation, which was used as a supplementary source of information to further specify the circumstances of hospitalization.

Objectives: The aim is to present the needs of a long-term hospitalized patient in the intensive care unit after extensive acute myocardial infarction requiring cardiac surgery and complicated by the development of low cardiac output syndrome with the need of the extracorporeal membrane oxygenation from the perspective of the patient and his family.

Results: The main aspect of recovery is the patient's psychological well-being, whose recovery and maintenance should be the focus of all interventions. The needs and the way of their satisfying change, but the nature of the care is the same. The principles that should be followed are enough time, helpful communication, verbal support and motivation, physical well-being and frequent family and friend visits, including children. The biggest obstacle in successful recovery is the loss of motivation. For patients is the most helpful family support, with needs information and empathy from healthcare professionals. Specific ways of assistance are described in the information leaflet.

Conclusion: The recovery of such critically ill patients is long-term and very challenging. It requires help and support from nursing staff and family. The recommendation for practice is to create an information leaflet for the caregivers in the recovery period at intensive care unit for these patients. The leaflet should be instruction for professionals and the patient's family.

Keywords: patient needs, nursing care, ICU, interview, ECMO, myocardial infarction