ANNOTATION

Author: Petra Škrášková

Institution: Institute of social medicine, Charles University - Faculty of

Medicine in Hradec Kralové

Department of nursing

Thesis title: Patients' quality of life after subarachnoid hemorrhage

Supervisor: PhDr. Mariana Bažantová

Number of pages: 134
Number of attachment: 13
Year: 2010

Keywords: quality of life, cognitive impairment, aneurysm, subarachnoid

hemmorhage, nursing care

Bachelor's thesis is focused on patients' quality of life 1 to 1,5 years after subarachnoid hemorrhage. The primary emphasis is set on the impact of this disease on psychological, social and emotional patients' life. The thesis is divided into theoretical and empirical part.

Patients' quality of life has been studied since the second half of the last century in various medical disciplines. Definition and ways how to investigate patients' quality of life are discussed in the theoretical part of thesis. The impact of subarachnoid hemorrhage on quality of life are reviewed and discussed.

The second chapter is dealing with cognitive changes and function of brain cortex. This topic is very important since impairment of these functions significantly decrease quality of life after subarachnoid hemorrhage.

The third chapter is focused on general data about subarachnoid hemorrhage and intracranial aneurysms. The risk factors of this disease, diagnostic procedures, treatment options and potential complications are reviewed. Nursing care for patients who suffured subarachnoid hemorrhage is very demanding. The education and professional behavior of the nurses is of utmost importance. Nursing procedures and basic patients' needs in intensive care unit are described.

The goal of empirical part of my thesis was to evaluate the patients' quality of life after subarachnoid hemorrhage was. Altogether 10 patients (7 women and 3 men) were included into my investigation. Semistructural interviews were selected to study patients'

quality of life. Triangulation method was used to develop semistructural interviews. Interveiw was recored, analyzed and coded.

Changes in patients' memory, emotions, sleep and tiredness were discovered in my investigation. The frequency and severity of visual disturbances represent rather surprising outcome of my thesis. Visual temporal field deficit and defocusing were noted the most frequently. It is not possible to conclude whether increased intracranial pressure after subarachnoid hemorrhage or bleeding in eye is the cause of these visual problems.