

ABSTRACT

Metformin is the first-line oral antidiabetic drug for patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. As the rate of new diagnosed cases of diabetes increases year-on-year, the number of patients who are prescribed metformin rises as well. In the Czech Republic only, 858,010 patients were treated for diabetes in 2015. 786,586 of them were treated for the type 2 diabetes mellitus. Metformin intoxication, called also MALA (metformin-associated lactic acidosis) after its main symptom, is a rare complication (≤ 10 cases per 100,000 patients per year) in the metformin treatment, but the mortality is high (up to 50%). Metformin-induced lactic acidosis develops when the contraindications of metformin therapy are not respected or in the event of an acute disease linked with dehydration and hypoxia. Patients with MALA are hospitalized at the internal medicine intensive care unit or the department of anesthesiology and critical care with multiple organ failure. This thesis aims at determining whether procedural nursing care standards, implemented in the form of a nursing process, are actively used in practice on intensive care beds.

Methodology: The empirical part is compiled in the form of a qualitative research, as a case study of a female patient suffering from metformin intoxication, caused by a suicide attempt. The data was collected by studying the nursing documentation, observation, interview with the patient and her family.

Results: The results show that the care on beds at the intensive care unit of the hospital where the research took place is provided in the form of a nursing process, but with insufficient records in the documentation.

Key words: metformin, MALA (metformin-associated lactic acidosis), type 2 diabetes mellitus, nursing care standards, nursing process