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The Perception of End Stage Renal Disease Patients regarding Peritoneal Dialysis: The Initial Phase for an Information Package Development

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Objectives: In Zamboanga City Medical Center (ZCMC), the population of end stage renal disease (ESRD) patients have exponentially increased which caused the 20 bed capacity dialysis unit to be full. To augment the services, peritoneal dialysis (PD) is now made available in the hospital. But it was noted to have poor acceptance rate among patients with only 17 patients enrolled.

Thus, this study formulated the following objectives: To determine the perception of end-stage renal disease patients of ZCMC regarding renal placement therapy, specifically hemodialysis, and peritoneal dialysis. Precisely to determine the cognition and understanding of ESRD patients regarding the process, purpose, importance, safety, and effectiveness of renal replacement therapies and the reasons influencing treatment preference and their ideas regarding how they can be convinced to use PD over hemodialysis.

Methods: This research will be the initial part of a multiphasic study in developing an information package. It employed a qualitative research design through focus group discussion (FGD).

Results: The study generated five main themes to describe the perception of ESRD patients regarding PD. These include knowledge about the disease and treatment, fears and beliefs about PD, factors affecting treatment choice and possible interventions to address knowledge gaps, fears, and ideas.

Conclusions: ESRD patients value experiences, thoughts, and testimonies of other patients. It is essential to take note of this because it will help the health care providers and policymakers in their interventions. The data is proven to be important in patient involvement, decision making, and overall treatment outcome. The findings can be used in developing a treatment package for PD, which will help them in decision making.