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Correlation between the functional walking capacity and domains of health-related quality of life in individuals with bi-ventricular heart failure

Background: Individuals with heart failure present with progressive reduction in their functional capacity, their activity of daily living, thus result in poor quality of life.

Objective: The objective of this study was to correlate the functional walking capacity of individuals with bi-ventricular heart failure (BVF) as measured by Six Minute Walk Test (6MWT) with the disease specific health related quality of life domains using Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire (KCCQ).

Methods: 66 subjects (female=37, 56%) with Chronic BVF in Class II and III of New York Heart Association with mean age 54.0 ± 1.6 years recruited from a Nigerian Tertiary Hospital participated in the study. The Functional Walking Capacity of this patient was estimated using 6MWT to determine the 6MWD while the health-related quality of life was assessed using KCCQ. Data was analyzed using SPSS [IBM] version 21 and the significant level was set at $p < 0.05$.

Results: There was significant negative correlation between the 6MWD and six domains of QoL but only 2, Fatigue and dyspnoea were statistically significant. ($r = -0.430$, $p = 0.002$ and $r = -0.285$, $p = 0.045$) respectively. Positive correlation was also observed between 6MWD and overall QoL, knowledge and perception domains though the correlation was not significant.

Conclusion: This study showed that functional walking capacity is negatively correlated with some of the symptoms being experienced by individuals with Bi-ventricular heart failure.

Biography

Olufunke Adewumi Ajiboye is the Director/Head, Physiotherapy in Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Lagos Nigeria. She is a Clinician/Researcher and teacher per excellence. She has published more than 17 papers in peer reviewed Journals of International Standard and has presented her research outcomes in more than 15 conferences both at national and international level. Her PhD thesis won the best award from the College of Medicine/Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lagos during 2013/2014 convocation. Part of her research outcome won the best Poster Presentation Award from Africa Region in Singapore at World Confederation for Physical Therapy Congress in May 2015. Many of her research outcomes had won awards at national and international level. She has won Fellowship Award from Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy in 2014 and Award of Excellence from Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy in 2015. She was recently elected as a Council Member and the Vice President I of the Council of National Postgraduate Physiotherapy College of Nigeria. She is a Fellow and Member of Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy Reform Committee. Her area of speciality is Cardiopulmonary Physiotherapy.

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