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Evaluation of quality of life after temporary ileostomy for ileal perforation

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Background: Ileal perforation is the second commonest cause of peritonitis in India. In our set up poor nutritional status, delayed presentation and extensive contamination of the peritoneal cavity preclude the choice of repairing this perforation primarily. Hence surgical intervention in such cases typically leads to creation of a temporary ileostomy. Although temporary ileostomy is performed as life-saving procedure but it can considerably impact the overall quality of life.

Methodology: This cross-sectional study was carried out in a tertiary care teaching hospital of India. The adequate sample size required for this study was 379 patients, however, up till now we could include 105 patients. Stoma QOL and SF-36 questionnaires were used to assess the stoma related quality of life and overall quality of life in these patients. All data was collected by a single observer after interviewing the patients in the follow-up clinic.

Results: Most of these patients were bothered about the skin excoriation in the follow-up clinic. Some of them were also concerned about their physical appearance. Mean stoma quality of life score was 51 and mean overall quality of life score was 47. The mean scores in males were more than females in most of the parameters.

Discussion: After surgery, patients with stoma experience more stress and a variety of physical problems causing worry and shame. The stoma is usually red, swollen and large im-

mediately after surgery, which is unpleasant for the patients to look at for the first time. This emotional stress, along with physical problems, pain and isolation from others reduce the quality of life in ostomy patients.

Based on our results, it appears that temporary ileostomy does affect the quality of life. This problem is further aggravated by the unavailability of dedicated stoma therapist in a most of our healthcare facilities.

Recent Publications

- Jha A, Sharma SK, Tandon N, Lakshmy R, Kadhiravan T, Handa KK, Gupta R, Pandey RM, Chaturvedi PK. Thyroxine replacement therapy reverses sleep-disordered breathing in patients with primary hypothyroidism. Sleep Med, 2006, 7(1):55-61
- Vijayvergiya R, Jha A, Pandian RP, Sharma R, Grover A. Isolated left ventricular noncompaction in association with rheumatic mitral stenosis. Int J Cardiol, 2008, 123(3): e54-6.
- Raman Sharma, Mahendra Kumar, Kusum K Rohilla. COVID-19 Infodemic: Evaluating Information-Seeking Behaviour Among Healthcare Workers During a Pandemic. Cureus, 2022, 14(1): e20910.

Biography

Ashesh Kumar Jha had completed his masters in general surgery from the University College of Medical Sciences affiliated to prestigious Delhi University. He has over 30 publications and 43 citations.

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