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**Is there an association between Norton Scale and Cognitive impairment?**

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**Introduction:** Geriatric assessment as an integrative part of assessment is composite of a numerous number of scales. Sometimes it is difficult to transfer all of them. Norton Scale Score (NSS) assesses the degree of risk to develop bedsores. In the previous studies, we found the correlation between Norton Scale and Functional Assessments. Correlation between Norton Scale and Cognitive Assessments was not evaluated yet. The aim of this study was to determine if there is an association between Norton scale score and cognitive impairment. This association can further decrease the number of numerous investigations in frail elderly, especially in elderly with communicative difficulties.

**Methods:** we have performed an observational cohort study which included hip fracture elderly patients consecutively admitted to the rehabilitation ward of Shmuel Harofe Geriatric Medical Center. The collected data included demographic data, data on chronic illnesses.

**Results** of cognitive status assessment (Mini Mental State Examination-MMSE) and Norton Scale assessment were received from the computerized patient's charts. We evaluated the association between these two scales.

**Results:** the study included 224 consecutive hip fracture patients with mean age of  $81.78 \pm 7.19$  years. Norton scores at admission, age, education, and previous stroke, emerged as the only statistically significant parameters differing between those with cognitive decline and without it. After adjusting for confounding variables, lower Norton Scores at admission

(OR 1.303 CI 1.097-1.548,  $P=0.003$ ) were associated with an increased risk finding cognitive impairment.

**Conclusion:** Our findings suggest that there is an association between Norton Scale scores and cognitive impairment. Norton score parameters, under certain circumstances, such as speech and other communication difficulties, can be used as a proxy measure for MMSE to indicate cognitive impairment. These finding can be even more helpful in the present time of "Corona", when we have to evaluate elderly patients with facial masks and others defensive suits.

**Keywords:** cognitive, geriatric, assessment, scales, Norton

**Recent publications**

1. Kagansky N, Stambler I, Mizrahi EH. Is There an Association between Norton Scale and Cognitive Impairment in Hip Fractured Elderly Patients? *Dement Geriatr Cogn Disord.* 2021;50(6):535-540. Kagansky N, Knobler H, Stein-Babich M, Voet H, Shalit A, Lindert J, Knobler HY. Holocaust Survival and the Long-term Risk of Cardiovascular Disease in the Elderly. *Isr Med Assoc J.* 2019 Apr;21(4):241-245. PMID: 31032564.
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**Biography**

Nadya Kagansky is the Director of Shmuel Hatofe Medical Geriatric Center; Specialist in geriatrics, internet medicine, psychogeriatric with 24 publications.

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