

able to tailor our prescriptions initially and improve the patients' adequacy of dialysis at the start.

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changes at night and a 2L wet day.
Results: Her clearances improved (RRF). In addition, her home situation improved.
Conclusion: High level PD achieved using PD Adequest® to achieve target dialysis change and still treating the

Billson M.K. Renal Treatment Cent U.S.A.

Design of a Renal-Specific Individualized Quality of Life Questionnaire (RDQoL)

Objectives: To design a concise, focused questionnaire to measure individuals' perceptions of the impact of their renal condition on their quality of life (QoL), taking account of the importance of life domains relevant for the individual.

Design: The design of the RDQoL (renal dependent QoL) was based on that of the Audit of Diabetes Dependent QoL (ADDQoL) diabetes-specific individualized QoL questionnaire which was influenced by patient-centered principles underlying the interview method of McGee *et al.* (1991). The questionnaires specify life domains, and the respondents rate personally applicable domains for importance and impact of the renal condition.

Method: Observation in 8 U.K. renal clinics, together with 40 in-depth interviews with PD, HD and transplant patients, informed item selection for the RDQoL. ADDQoL items were the starting point for discussions which went on to identify additional life domains relevant for renal patients.

Results: Each of the 13 ADDQoL items was relevant and important for renal patients. Additional suggestions for items included physical appearance, dependency, freedom, restrictions of fluid intake, societal prejudice.

Conclusion: Unlike other QoL measures, the RDQoL is an individualized questionnaire measure of the impact of renal disease and its treatment on QoL. Face and content validity is established for adult renal patients and the RDQoL is being further evaluated for research and clinical use.

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Towards Excellence in Nursing: Primary Nursing

A Community Primary Nursing unit during August 1995. The aim was towards the management of patients by primary nurses and the associate nurses via a community outpatients service. The role may be defined as:

- Health educators
- Patients' advocate
- Counsellors to patients and carers
- Teamworkers
- Researchers

A unique role is participation in the collection of data from adequacy tests is utilized to improve the quality of life for patients.

Following one year of Communitarian Primary Nursing served the following benefits:

- Continuity of patient care
- Enhanced relationships with patients
- Increased patient satisfaction
- Stronger teamworking with other professionals in the primary sector
- An increasing population of patients
- Increased research activity

This approach is now recognized and a successful move towards primary nursing.

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