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INTRODUCTION

The NECPAL Instrument (SARquavitae – WHOCC-IDC®) consists of a quasi-qualitative, multifactorial and non dichotomic assessment. It combines evaluations of perception (the surprise question) and perceived demands - needs along with measurable parameters of severity - intensity, clinical features of illness progression, comorbidity, use of resources and specific instruments for some pathologies.

OBJECTIVES

Identifying advanced chronically ill patients with palliative care needs. Examining the NECPAL predictive capacity in a sample of old people living in SARquavitae nursing homes.

METHOD

Care data contained in the SARquavitae Care Information System (GCR®) were analyzed between March (onset of NECPAL register) and May 2014.

RESULTS

These preliminary findings point out that the NECPAL SARquavitae–WHOCC-IDC® may be a sensitive instrument to estimate death in individuals with chronic conditions and advanced disease.

More comprehensive analyses are needed to isolate the effects and evaluate the validity of the instrument in nursing home contexts.

CONCLUSIONS

Identifying chronic patients with palliative care needs at early stages is relevant to provide good quality end-of-life care [2]. Identification is the first step that must be followed by others in the care process: 1. Evaluating patient’s and their family’s multidimensional needs; 2. Practicing a model of impeccable care; 3. Developing a systematic and multidimensional treatment plan; 4. Identifying patient’s and their family’s values and preferences; 5. Involving the family and the primary caregiver in caring and decision-making; and, 6. Performing case management and undertaking appropriate monitoring with integrated actions.

REFERENCES