EVALUATION OF MEDICINES ADHERENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS B

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Background and importance

Chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is a major public health problem worldwide. Patients' knowledge about their disease and/or the use of new technologies are factors that may influence in patient`s medicines adherence

Aim and objectives

The aim of this study was evaluate the HBV patient's treatment adherence and identify factors involved on it.

Material and methods

Descriptive study carried out in a Regional Hospital for 8 months. Patients diagnosed with HBV by Gastroenterology Unit whom collected their treatments from Outpatient Pharmacy Service (OPS) within study period were included.

❑ To evaluate the adherence to the treatment and the factors involved we developed a questionnaire with 7 questions to be filled in by patient anonymously when collecting their medicines in the OPS.

❑ To evaluate the treatment adherence we checked the medicines dispensation record database. All patient enrolled signed informed consent accepting to take part on the study.

Results

➤ Sixty-six patients were included, 55 were males (83.3%), 33 (50%) were Spaniards. Median of age was 47 years (range 82-25).

➤ Four patients (6%) had university studies, 18 (27.3%) high school degree and 44 (66.7%) primary school education.

➤ Surveyed patients: 51 (77.2%) has been collected HBV medication over 3 years and three (4.5%) less than a year.

➤ Twenty-nine patients (43.9%) had never looked information about their disease and 37 (56%) answered correct 3 out of 4 question about natural history infection.

➤ Fifty-one patients answered they did not require any medication reminder strategy, while 8 (12.2%) used a medication remainder.

➤ In regards of adherence of medication based on pharmacy dispensation record database, 58 patients (87.9%) had more than 90% of estimated adherence, being 100% among patients with university studies or high school degree.

Conclusions

HBV patients showed high adherence compliance. Most of them had not taken special arrangements to remind to take their medication.
Generally, patients showed poor knowledge of natural history of their illness. Our study showed a link between the patient's educational attainment and medication compliance.