IMPACT OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE ON PERSISTENT NON-CANCER PAIN PATIENTS REFERRED TO MULTIDISCIPLINARY PAIN TREATMENT FACILITIES

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INTRODUCTION / AIM

The goals of the study were to (1) compare treatment expectations in persistent non-cancer pain (PNCP) patients with and without chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) referred to multidisciplinary pain treatment facilities in terms of pain intensity and interference, quality of life (QoL), and pain relief, and (2) examine differences in pain-related characteristics (pain severity, QoL, sleep quality and depression) prior to the initial visit (baseline) and 6 months later.

METHODS

A total of 117 PNCP patients (mean age = 67.5±12.7; 48% males) with COPD referred to a tertiary care pain clinic and 117 matched controls (PNCP patients without COPD matched on age, sex, pain duration and number of comorbidities) were enrolled in the Quebec Pain Registry (2012-2014) and completed questionnaires at baseline and 6 months thereafter. Multivariate analyses of variance were used to examine group differences in treatment expectations and pain-related characteristics.

RESULTS

No significant overall difference was found between PNCP patients with and without COPD in terms of treatment expectations. Patients with COPD reported significantly higher levels of pain interference, worse sleep quality, and poorer mental health-related quality of life (mQoL) at baseline than matched controls (all p<0.05). There was no significant overall difference at 6 months.

DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS

Despite reporting more pain interference, worse sleep quality and poorer mQoL at baseline, patients with COPD appear to respond well to treatment so that these differences were no longer significant at 6 months. This effect does not seem to be mediated by treatment expectations differences between the groups.

OTHER AUTHORS

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