**Key words:** family doctor team, legislation, public services.

## 77. QUALITY OF LIFE AND MULTIMORBIDITY IN HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS

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**Introduction.** Multimorbidity in patients undergoing hemodialysis causes major changes in their lifestyle that affect their quality of life. In Moldova there have been no studies to prove this.

**Aim of the study.** To examine the quality of life (QoL) level and its correlation with multimorbidity in patients with chronic kidney disease.

Materials and methods. The participants were individuals with end-stage renal failure who received hemodialysis in one outpatient clinic in Chisinau during January and February 2018. The sample included 30 adults; they all received hemodialysis treatment for the minimum of one month. Data was collected using a questionnaire with sociodemographic and clinical variables; it also included the SF36 questionnaire for assessing the quality of life. Multimorbidity, defined as the existence of two or more medical conditions within one person, was assessed as a simple account of diseases.

**Results.** Of the 30 patients on hemodialysis, 17 (56.6%) were women, the mean age (M±SD) was 47.8±15.3 years. The onset of chronic kidney disease was 37.7±17.5 years; they started the hemodialysis at 46.1±15.6 years, with a duration of 16.23±20.5 months, with 1 to 3 procedures per week. Concomitant diseases were identified in 26 patients, and in 21 (70%) cases multimorbidity was established. The average total score of quality of life was found to be 62.7±12.9 (in a range 47-85) points. Scores of mental health were higher (68.6±13.4) than those of physical health (55.4±14.5, p<0.001). It was found that the increasing duration of hemodialysis sessions determined poorer quality of life (p<0.05). The total score of quality of life was found to be lower in participants with multimorbidity, especially in the physical domain (p<0.05). Furthermore, the number and severity of comorbid conditions correlate significantly with lower QoL (r=0.5, p<0.05) in patients with chronic kidney disease.

**Conclusions.** Concomitant medical conditions, multimorbidity especially, have a negative impact on the quality of life in hemodialysis patients.

**Key words:** hemodialysis, quality of life, multimorbidity

## 78. ASSESSMENT OF INFANT FEEDING PRACTICES IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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**Introduction**. Worldwide, the prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding of infants in first 6 months of life is about 36.4%. In the Republic of Moldova, this indicator reaches the level of 40% in rural areas and 30% in urban areas.

**Aim of the study.** Evaluation of infant feeding practices in several urban and rural areas.

**Material and methods.** The study included 100 infants: 50 children from Chisinau city and 50 children from rural areas (Hincesti, Ialoveni and Stefan-Voda) between 10 October 2016 and 23 June 2017. Interviewed mothers answered to a questionnaire containing 180 items, including data about the level of education of parents, nutrition during pregnancy and after birth of mothers, infant feeding practices and food diversification.