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Prevalence of Pressure Ulcers among Hospitalised Cancer Patients in Jordan

Ma'en Aljezawi

Al al-Bayt University, Jordan

Background: Although a plethora of studies exploring the prevalence of pressure ulcers have been reported in the literature, very few have focused on their prevalence in cancer patients as a special risk group.

Aim: To measure the prevalence of pressure ulcers in hospitalised cancer patients.

Method: A multi-centre, cross-sectional survey using the European Pressure Ulcers Advisory Panel Methodology in five hospitals in Jordan. Patients' skin was examined and the risk of pressure ulcers was assessed.

Results: This study included 110 cancer patients. Their age mean was 50.65 ± 17.32 years, more than half were females (54.5%, $n=60$), the prevalence of pressure ulcers was 15.5% (7.3% when grade 1 was excluded). A total of 17 pressure ulcers were found; heel ulcers were the most frequent ($n=11$; 64.7%) and most of the ulcers were grade 1 ($n=9$; 52.9%). Only 26.9% of the at-risk patients received adequate prevention.

Conclusion: Results support the need to focus attention on pressure ulcer prevention in cancer patients and to further define specific guidelines aimed at prevention and treatment in such a vulnerable patient group.

Biography

Maen Aljezawi is an associate professor of gerontological nursing at Al al-Bayt University/ faculty of nursing in Jordan. I have earned my bachelor's degree and master degree in nursing science from Jordan University of science and Technology, my PhD in nursing science was from De Montfort University-UK. In Academia I have taught a number of nursing courses like community health nursing, gerontological nursing and psychiatric nursing. In the research area, I am interested in epidemiological studies, wound care, dementia and exploring health phenomena.