Contribution of an interactive educational technology aimed at dependent patient family caregivers

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Introduction

In recent years, due to demographic change and the aging population, there are changes in the adopted policies paradigm, including the use of Information and Communication Technologies. The current scientific scenario points to an increasing use of educational platforms aimed at health education for citizens.

Aim

The aim of this work was to evaluate the contribution of an educational interactive technology in the development of knowledge in dependent patient family caregivers, in home context.

Method

Quasi-experimental non-randomized study with a pre-post test design. A convenience sample of 65 family caregivers who care for dependents identified in two medical wards of a hospital. The control group consisted of 33 family caregivers and the experimental group included 32, identified by a consecutive sampling. The experimental group had access to educational technology at home.

The assessment in both groups had two moments: baseline within the hospital and another, one month after discharge.

Proceedings

Selection criteria: Be a Family Caregiver aged at least 18 and being a caregiver of dependent person with self-caring dependency tube feeding, transfer and positioning and have basic computer competencies. The data was collected through sociodemographic questionnaire and assessment of knowledge on nasogastric tube feeding, positioning and transfer of the dependent person.

The results showed a statistically significant improvement in knowledge of family caregivers who used the educational technology.

Conclusions

- These findings seem to corroborate the added value of interactive educational technologies in the training of family caregivers to care for dependent people
- This study resulted in a better knowledge about the contribution of educational technologies in the development of caregiver’s skills.

Reference Site

http://online.esenf.pt/cuidarpessoadependente/