

Considerazioni clinico-gestionali sulla nutrizione artificiale protratta nel paziente neurologico

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A cost-effectiveness analysis of long-term artificial nutrition in neurologic patients

ABSTRACT: Aim of the study was to examine some issues concerning the management of the neurological patients affected by chronic dysphagia and included in Home Enteral Nutrition (HEN). 1. Patients included in HEN (n/million inhabitants/yr): Italian Registry: 22; British Artificial Nutrition Survey: 150-250; Spanish Registry: 21; Italy's Piedmont Region: 118; HEN Centre of Ivrea (Turin): 320. 2. Neurological patients (% of total HEN pts): Italian Registry: 36.5%; Turin San Giovanni Centre: 36.5%; Ivrea (Turin) HEN Centre: 64%. On average, neurological patients increased by 20%/yr in the last 3-4 yrs. 3. The cost of the treatment, including materials, delivery, clinical organisation and follow-up has been calculated in 22.8 (Turin) and 21.5 (Ivrea) euro/d. 4. Length of treatment (days; median, range) in patients who resume oral nutrition, e their percentage on all HEN patients with the same disease (results of a group of 410 neurological HEN patients from Turin and Ivrea Centres): stroke sequelae: 260 (10-1346) d; 18.5%. Chronic degenerative diseases: 223 (34-328) d; 13.3%. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: 0%. Sequelae of head trauma: 223 (34-328) d; 13.3%. This study shows that the number of neurological patients needing HEN is increasing in the last years, both as percentage and absolute number; the costs are moderate; the rehabilitation depends on the primary disease and, although not elevated, is consistent. (RINPE 2002; 20: 149-55)

KEY WORDS: Home Enteral Nutrition (HEN), Neurological Diseases, Chronic Dysphagia, Oral Rehabilitation

PAROLE CHIAVE: Nutrizione Enterale Domiciliare (NED), Patologie neurologiche, Disfagia cronica, Riabilitazione nutrizionale