World Federation of Hemophilia
2012 World Congress
Paris, France July 8-12

TELEMEDICINE IN HAEMOPHILIA: VIRTUAL CONSULTATION FOR THE HAEMATOLOGIST AT PATIENT'S HOME.

Authors: Aznar JA; Marco A; Jaca M; Pérez-Alenda S; Vila C; García-Dasí M and Querol F.

Haemostasis and Thrombosis Unit, Hospital La Fe, Valencia, Spain. E-mail: marco_anaric@gva.es

INTRODUCTION

Domiciliary replacement therapy (DRT) ensures rapid infusion of lacking factors when any bleeding episode occurs and reduces hospital dependency of haemophilic patients. However, these patients still have to visit the hospital frequently because the haematologist can prescribe general guidelines for home-replacement therapy but cannot adapt them to the bleeding evolution.

METHODS

For reducing hospital dependency, we have designed a domiciliary virtual consultation based on three digital applications that permits connection between the patient and the haematologist.
In the first application, the patient describes the clinical characteristics of the bleeding episode, dose and length of self-treatment. Consequently, we can contrast the consistency between medical prescription and patients compliance at home. These records are downloaded to our data base avoiding manual typing.
The second application consists in the electronic monitoring of haemarthrosis in elbows, knees and ankles and DRT by ultrasounds performed at patients home and sending the images by Internet to the hospital. With this application we combine both the advantages of DRT and the DRT monitoring of haemarthrosis (by fitting dose, frequency and length of treatment to the ultrasounds results).
The third application permits, through a web camera, a virtual intercommunication between the patient and haematologist.

RESULTS

We have included 64 patients in the first electronic application along 2011, recruited by living near the reference hospital. We have performed 114 domiciliary ultrasounds in 36 patients, in the same period. We have established 7 virtual consultation by web camera.

CONCLUSIONS

This virtual consultation will never substitute the medical visit at hospital, but it may be a useful tool for both the patient and the haematologist. We can reduce the hospital dependency implying an improvement in quality of life.

Study funded by Pfizer Inc

WFH2012 60--Mo
Hemophilia Programs and Organizations
JOSÉ ANTONIO AZNAR
DOI: 10.3252/pso.eu.WFH2012.2012
Poster presented at: