Quality of Life before and after peritoneal dialysis in Hong Kong elderly

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Introduction
Title: Quality of Life before and after peritoneal dialysis in Hong Kong elderly
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Quality of life (QoL) is considered as an important measure of treatment outcome, especially for long-term diseases. Patients with end stage renal disease requiring peritoneal dialysis. Compared to the younger patients, the elderly may find more difficulties in dealing with PD than the others.

Objectives
The objectives of this study were to assess the elderly patients’ QoL change after the commencement of PD, and to examine the relationship between predictors and the QoL change.

Methodology
Convenient sampling of 31 aged 60 year-old or above peritoneal dialysis elderly were recruited. Their QoL was measured by using the Kidney Disease Quality of Life Short Form (KDQOL-SF 1.3) questionnaires before their home peritoneal dialysis and three months afterwards. Demographic data, physical and mental health status, and score of QoL were collected for analysis.

Result
The QoL score increased significantly after peritoneal dialysis among the elderly (p<0.001). Their general health perceptions (p=0.045), role limitations-emotional (p=0.018), social functioning (p<0.001), symptom list (p= 0.008), overall health rating (p=0.002), and overall health rating compared to 1 year ago (p<0.001) are all improved significantly after peritoneal dialysis. Predictors for the QoL increase are age (p=0.014), religion (p=0.001), and independency of doing peritoneal dialysis (p=0.036).