Factors Predicting Medication Use Behaviors of Type 2 Diabetic Patients

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Abstract

Purpose: To study factors predicting medication use behaviors of type 2 diabetic patients. These factors included gender, age, education level, income, duration of disease, and beliefs related to medication use behaviors.

Design: Correlational predictive design.

Methods: The subjects consisted of 108 patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus who received diabetic medications. The questionnaires were used for data collection. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Pearson' product moment correlation coefficient, and stepwise regression technique.

Main findings: The majority of participants (99.1% vs 95.4%) in this study obtained 'good' levels of medication use behaviors and beliefs related to medication use behaviors in type 2 diabetic patients. Beliefs related to medication use behaviors could explain 4.3% of the variance in the medication use behaviors ($R^2 = .043$, $p < .05$). Gender, age, education level, income, duration of disease could not predict medication use behaviors of type 2 diabetic patients.

Conclusion and recommendations: Based on the study’s findings, beliefs related to medication use behavior affect medication use behaviors of diabetic patients. It is recommended that intervention program or guidelines should be developed by using the concept of beliefs related to medication use behavior to ensure appropriateness and effectiveness of medication use behaviors.

Keywords: beliefs, medication use behavior, type 2 diabetic patients