

UNMET NEEDS ARE RELATED TO PRO-HEALTHY BEHAVIOUR AND DIRECT MEDICAL COSTS IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASES

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Coordinated healthcare plays a significant role in chronic respiratory disease management. The treatment processes that involve interdisciplinary teams of researchers who, aside from the physical treatment, could recognize and address the psychological aspects of unmet needs could be helpful in understanding undertaking or abandoning pro-healthy behaviour by pulmonary patients, but also can influence the medical costs of the treatment. The purpose of the study was to determine the influence of unmet needs on pro-healthy behaviour in patients with chronic respiratory diseases and to recognize the factors that identify them in this group of patients. The level of met/unmet needs was assessed with the Modified Short Camberwell Needs Assessment. For the level of pro-healthy behaviour assessment, the authors used the Health Behaviour Inventory developed by Z. Juczynski. The study group consisted of 305 adult patients with chronic respiratory diseases. Participants for the study were recruited from among the patients of 130 general practitioners between July 2011 and March 2016. The results of the surveys indicate that any prevention programme should focus on increasing the level of needs satisfied in patients with chronic respiratory diseases and should be addressed simultaneously to the social and psychological wellbeing of patients. For the most effective (also most cost-effective) treatment fragmented and disease-focused processes should be replaced by integrated health and social care.