

THE ESTIMATE OF PARENTAL QUALITY OF LIFE LOSS DUE TO RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) HOSPITALIZATION

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Background: Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) affects majority of children and a hospitalization may decrease parental quality of life (QoL). We assessed QoL during RSV-related hospitalization of parents/caregivers of children under 2 years old.

Methods: Parents filled EQ-5D questionnaire consisting of descriptive system and visual analog scale (VAS), and a corresponding Polish value sets were used to calculate utility. Quality-adjusted life years (QALY) loss was estimated.

Results: Problems in any of five dimensions were reported by 42% (55 out of 132) of parents, and the majority regarded anxiety/depression (37%), followed by pain/discomfort (17%), usual activities (10%), self-care (8%), and mobility 5%. The corresponding utility was calculated between 0.17 and 1.0. An average utility reported with VAS was 0.86 (interquartile range: 0.8-0.9) with median loss of 0.14 (0.1-0.2), while median QoL loss reached 0.87 days (0.5-1.67). The QALY loss per hospitalization episode was 2.45×10^{-3} (1.37-4.56), and varied between 1.78 (1.64-2.47) in the case of bronchitis, 1.84 (0.33-4.6) in pneumonia, and 2.74(1.37-5.14) in bronchiolitis. A concordance between descriptive system and VAS was moderate (Spearman's rank correlation coefficient of 0.438), with the latter one revealing generally higher QoL loss.

Conclusions: RSV hospitalization influences parental QoL significantly, and an impact on parents/caregivers should be remembered.