

The Science of Nourishing the Next Generation

CHRD 2021: Abstract & Poster Submission Form

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Research Category: O Basic Science	
⊙ Clinical	
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What was your role in the project? ☑ Design	
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Title

Predictors of Quality of Life in Youth Living with Type 2 Diabetes

Background

The prevalence of Type 2 diabetes (T2D) is increasing in youth (<18 years). The biopychosocial effects of T2D on Quality of Life (QOL) is understudied.

Objective

We hypothesized that QOL is lower among youth with T2D, compared to peers without T2D, and decreased QOL is associated with biopsychosocial stressors.

Methods

Data from the Improving Renal Complications in Adolescents with T2D through Research (iCARE) study was used to test these hypotheses. The main outcome was QOL determined from the Pediatric QOL Inventory™ (PedsQL). Social factors included food security (Household Food security survey module), and income quintile. Psychological factors included perceived stress (PSS-14) and mental distress (K-6 scale). Biological factors included: age, sex, BMI, HbA1C, eGFR and ACR. Linear regression analyses were used to identify biopsychosocial factors associated with QOL between youth with and without T2D, and within the T2D cohort

Results

QOL was assessed in 331 youth with T2D and 137 without T2D. Mean age (14.96 vs 14.93 yrs), male sex (35 vs 43.8 %), BMI z scores (2.54 vs 2.10) and Indigenous ethnicity (81.2 vs 89.1 %) were similar between the groups. Mean duration of diabetes was 2.3 ± 2.0 yrs. Youth with T2D had significantly lower PedsQL scores (67.01 \pm 14.75) compared to controls (71.71 \pm 16.15, p=0.039), but significance was lost in multivariate analyses. For youth with T2D, mental distress (β = -1.43; P<0.01) and food insecurity (β = -6.26; p=0.037) were associated with decreased QOL.

Conclusion

Differences in QOL were univariately significant between youth with T2D and those without, however this attenuated in the multivariate model. Significant predictors of decreased QoL included mental distress and food insecurity, suggesting areas for further support for these youth.

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