

Quality assessment of early diagnosis and treatment of dementia in Korea

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HYUNJU OH¹, EUNMI KIM¹

1. HIRA (Health Insurance Review & Assessment Service), Quality Assessment Administration Department, Republic of Korea

INTRODUCTION

In Korea, an increasing number of elderly population is leading to a significant rise in dementia cases. In 2021, 940,000 patients visited hospitals with dementia. This is a large number, equivalent to 10.9% of the population aged 65 and over (8.57 million people).

Since this costly disease imposes a heavy burden on society, effective countermeasures are urgent. Thus, we have initiated a quality assessment for hospitals that treat dementia.

It is important to accurately diagnose and treat dementia in the early stages to minimize the progression of the disease.

AIM

We set an assessment indicator of dementia to enable hospitals to enhance their capacity to treat patients with the disease.

Our goal is to postpone the progression of the disease, improve their quality of life, and reduce their burden of the disease.

We also verified whether the patient continued with follow-up treatment.

METHOD

The target institutions include hospitals, including tertiary hospitals, general hospitals, hospitals and private clinics.

We analyzed health insurance claims data from HIRA covering the period from October 2021 to March 2022.

The subjects of the study were new patients with dementia, without history of dementia medication within 12 months.

