EMOTIONAL IMPACTS OF THE PATIENT COLOSTOMY BAG

Maria Catarina Ferraz da Silva1, Lívia Maria de Barros Monteiro2, Cybelle Cavalcanti Accioly3, Mônica de Oliveira Osório4, Eliane Nóbrega Albuquerque5, Juliana do Nascimento Porto Behar6

ABSTRACT

Introduction: The ostomy is a surgical procedure that creates an abdominal canal for the elimination of fecal or urinary remains in an external pouch. The clinical conditions that lead to an intestinal ostomy are related to the benign or malignant pathologies of the gastroenterological organ. Ostomy may be temporary or permanent, and its characteristics can not be voluntary, as is the case of the colostomy. This type of procedure may bring biopsychosocial impacts for the patient.

Objective: Analyze the emotional effects on patients using a colostomy bag.

Method: Integrative review and reporting of experience.

Results: While providing psychological support for patients with colostomy, it is possible to see what are the different types of changes in their routine, which are not physiological, but also psychological, emotional and social. The adaptation is a long and continuous process, and it is related to the underlying disease, the degree of physical weakness, the individual values and the type of personality of the patient. The ostomy procedure implies not only the use of the colostomy bag, but also a new body image that needs to be reconstructed, which has direct connection with self-esteem, self-image, self concept, body concept and body scheme, important components of the patient’s identity. Having undergone the procedure, some patients may experience feelings of alienation of their own body for their body have changed after the surgery. Using a bag collector represents a mutilation on the patient’s body and leads to a lack of control over physiological excretion, the body, physical beauty and health, eventually causing self-rejection. This situation is experienced by patients with a feeling of incapacity and inutility, as a sensation of loss of productive capacity may arise, and it can still arouse feelings like hatred, disgust, repulsion and fear, making one move away from the social environment. In addition, it affects the sexual life of the patient, causing loss of libido and impotence.

Conclusion: The patient undergoing a colostomy procedure is at an extremely fragile and delicate situation, and depending on the family’s approach to it, the process may become even more difficult. This is the first program of health and psychological support to address the pain and loss of health. Experience shows it is possible for the patient to develop their own concepts, according to their advantages and disadvantages, to accept and work their capabilities after a colostomy.