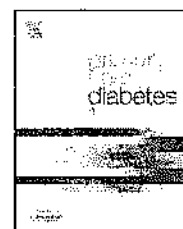




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Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Primary Care Diabetes

journal homepage: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/pcd>PCDE
Primary Care Diabetes Europe

Original research

Patients requests and needs for culturally and individually adapted supportive care in type 2 diabetes patients

A comparative study between Nordic and non-Nordic patients in a social economical vulnerable area of Linköping, Sweden

Angelica Staff^{a,b,*}, Peter Garvin^{b,c}, Ann-Britt Wiréhn^{b,c}, Pia Yngman-Uhlin^{b,c}

^a Capió Primary Health Care Center Berga, Linköping, Sweden

^b Department of Medical and Health Sciences, Linköping University, Sweden

^c Research & Development Unit in Local Health Care, Linköping, Sweden

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 24 January 2017

Received in revised form

12 June 2017

Accepted 13 June 2017

Available online xxx

Keywords:

Diabetes mellitus type 2

Immigration

Metabolic control

Primary healthcare

Supportive care

ABSTRACT

Aims: This study sought to determine and compare the metabolic control of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) in non-Nordic immigrants and native Nordics. The aim was also to describe and compare the request of supportive care between these two groups.

Methods: One hundred and eighty-four patients (n=184) coming to a routine check-up in a primary healthcare setting (PHC), were consecutively enrolled to the study during a period of one year. Data on therapeutic interventions, clinical measurements, healthcare consumption, and adherence to standard diabetes healthcare program were extracted from the patients' medical record. Structured interviews on supportive care were conducted by diabetes trained nurses. If needed, a qualified interpreter was used. Comparisons were made between Nordic patients (n=151) and non-Nordic patients (n=33).

Results: Among T2DM patients in a setting of PHC, there was a difference in meeting the metabolic target HbA1c, between native Nordics and non-Nordic immigrants. There was also a difference in request on supportive care. The non-Nordic group significantly requested more and different supportive care. They also attended the standard diabetes program to a lesser degree.

Conclusions: Culturally/individually adapted prevention is not only medically warranted but also requested by the patients themselves.

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* Corresponding author at: Capió Berga VC, Söderleden 35-37, 587 35 Linköping, Sweden.

E-mail address: Angelica.staff@regionostergotland.se (A. Staff).

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pcd.2017.06.006>

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