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A qualitative study of patient experience on foot amputation in type 2 diabetes

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Diabetes mellitus is an increasingly prevalent chronic illness that places a massive burden on the individual, the health care system and society. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 347 million people worldwide have diabetes. Foot ulceration and amputations are one of the primary macrovascular complications associated with diabetes. Research shows that more than 80 % of amputations are preceded by foot ulcers with diabetic foot ulcers affecting 15 % of people suffering from diabetes. The aim of the study is to gain insight into the attitudes and experiences of foot amputation in Iranian people with diabetes. This is a qualitative study using conventional content analysis with 15 semi-structured interviews conducted with Iranian people with diabetes that have experiences of foot amputation, done through purposeful sampling and willingness to participate in

the study. The subjects were selected through purposive sampling method; the data collection was performed until the results were completed by clarifying the categories and subcategories. The inclusion Criteria, included the willingness to participate in the study, Patients with diabetes and foot amputation were eligible to participate, and voluntary cooperation with the researcher. The subjects had the right to withdraw from the study at any time. The results of the data analysis consisted of five main categories of the threat to independence, Hope in the shadow of panic, living with the loss, Negative emotions, Recovery, along with 16 subcategories. Considering the experiences of foot amputation in Iranian people with diabetes, should also be considered and paid attention to the creation of formal and informal support groups will help them. So that they can adapt this phenomenon soon.

Biography

Zahra Mokhtari is a PhD student of Nursing, Nursing Department, University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Science, Tehran, Iran, Member of Iranian Diabetes Association.

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