Bridging the Communication Gap in Emergency Care: How Informational Pamphlet Enhance Satisfaction for Patients with Distal Radius Fractures

Authors : Amr Mansour, Boaz Granot, Amani Tatar, Assil Mahamid, Mohammad Hai Yahia, Fairoz Javvusi, Eval Behrbalk Abstract : INTRODUCTION: Distal radius fractures are common orthopedic injuries often treated in the fast-paced, high-stress environment of emergency departments (EDs). In such settings, patient satisfaction can be significantly influenced by the clarity of communication and the accessibility of information This study explores the impact of providing an informational pamphlet that outlines ED processes, treatment expectations, and follow-up instructions on patient satisfaction across key domains, including trust, communication, organization, responsiveness, and overall experience. We hypothesize that a structured informational pamphlet will enhance patient satisfaction by fostering better understanding and aligning patient expectations with the realities of the ED visit. METHODS: A total of 100 adult patients treated for distal radius fractures between January and August 2024 participated in this survey-based study. Patients were randomized into two equal groups: one group received an informational pamphlet detailing their condition and treatment, while the other did not. Satisfaction levels were assessed using a structured questionnaire addressing five domains. Fisher's exact test was used to compare satisfaction measures between the two groups, and multivariate logistic regression analysis was conducted to evaluate the association between receiving an information sheet and high satisfaction. The study was approved by the Institutional Review Board. RESULTS SECTION: Patients who received an informational pamphlet reported significantly higher satisfaction across all five domains (p < .001). In Trust and Understanding, 82% of info-sheet recipients felt "in good hands," compared to 10% of non-recipients. For Communication, 86% rated doctor explanations as "very clear," versus 16% among non-recipients. Logistic regression showed that receiving an informational pamphlet was a significant predictor of high satisfaction with Discharge Explanation—clarity on condition, treatment, and follow-up (OR = 17.65, 95% CI: 4.74 - 65.77, p < .001) and Reasonable Solution—feeling their primary concern was resolved (OR = 37.82, 95% CI: 8.75 - 163.42, p < .001). Other predictors, including fracture reduction, gender, and age, were not significant. DISCUSSION: This study highlights the substantial role that simple, cost-effective interventions like informational pamphlets can play in enhancing patient satisfaction in emergency care. By improving communication, fostering trust, and promoting a patient-centered approach, informational pamphlets offer a valuable tool for healthcare providers seeking to enhance the quality of care and patient experience in high-pressure emergency environments. However, the study's limitations, including its single-center design and reliance on self-reported satisfaction scores, may affect the generalizability of the results. Future research should consider a multi-center approach and explore long-term outcomes to further validate the efficacy of informational pamphlets in diverse ED settings. Ultimately, sustained improvement in patient satisfaction is a complex and dynamic issue necessitating a multifactorial approach, and other methods should also be explored to complement this strategy. SIGNIFICANCE/CLINICAL RELEVANCE: This study demonstrates that providing an informational pamphlet in the ED setting can significantly improve patient satisfaction across multiple domains, emphasizing its potential as a simple, cost-effective tool to enhance communication, trust, and overall patient experience during emergency care for distal radius fractures. Integrating such interventions into standard ED protocols may foster a more patient-centered approach, improving both patient outcomes and healthcare efficiency.

Keywords : distal radius fracture, quality care, patient satisfaction, emergency medicine, patient-centered care, communication

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Conference Title : ICTTP 2025 : International Conference on Trauma: Theory and Practice

Conference Location : Haifa, Israel

Conference Dates : March 03-04, 2025