RENAL SUPPORTIVE CARE IN TAIWAN

A nationwide survey of healthcare personnel's attitudes, knowledge and interest

The survey

The respondents

Medical profession:
- Palliative care specialists: 18.8%
- Nephrologists: 24.4%
- Dialysis nurses or case managers: 9.1%
- Care facilitators: 46.8%

Institutional size:
- Dialysis clinics: 92.9%
- Metropolitan hospitals: 91.7%
- Academic medical centers: 91.7%
- Local community hospitals: 43.9%
- Primary care clinics: 5.2%

The results

Most respondents (81.9%) were self-motivated to learn about RSC.

The most interesting topics were:
- Indications of RSC, how to select the appropriate candidates for RSC: 26.5%
- Symptom control and palliative dialysis: 21.7%
- The introduction to RSC history: 18.9%
- RSC practice case vignettes: 15.4%

The least interesting topic was:
- Local regulations and laws for RSC: 35.6%

CONCLUSION

The results facilitate the understanding of the knowledge and attitudes toward different RSC topics among varied medical professions and can guide the design of RSC education content for healthcare personnel.

The discrepancy between the low frequency of RSC practice and high willingness of health personnel to provide RSC emphasizes the importance of RSC education.