LIFE-LONG FOLLOW-UP CARE FOR PERSONS WITH SCL - SLOVENIAN MODEL





Primary rehabilitation for patients with SCL



Department for rehabilitation od patients with SCL at University rehabilitation Institute - Soča in Lubiana.

"one and only"

- inclusion criteria for admission.
- dismissed (most often) when goals are achieved.
 - at home
 - in (nursing) care institutions (retirement homes, long-term care facilities) across Slovenia – NO FORMAL NETWORK FOR SCL patients.

Where to if not at home after dismissal?



Efforts to establish a network for life-long care of younger and elder persons needing both exigent nursing care and social reintegration.

Before dismissal



- Educational program for patients and relatives and/or informal caregivers before dismissal.
 - Focus is on teaching techniques for giving assistance.
- □ Team field work (OT + SW)

- Monthly presentations to patients and relatives of the activities of the Slovenian Paraplegic Association.
- NO FORMAL PEER-COUNCELING PROGRAM (yet)!

Vocational rehabilitation



- A <u>triage consultation</u> done during primary rehabilitation.
- Vocational assessment and retraining is done later (after at least 6 months waiting list).

Until then patients don't return to work but stay at home (if employed - on sick leave).

Follow-up system (?) after dismissal



NO HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY (public or private)

OR NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

OR STANDARDS

OR PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOW-UP.

"professional self-regulation" ?

Follow-up



Outpatient clinic for persons with SCL at URI Soča

- 2 days/week, minimum 5 patients/day;
- *2 MDs, specialist in PRM (working 5 days/week at the Dpt and other outpatient clinics).

Addressing all SCL related issues that can be dealt at URI Soča and referring to other specialists (if empowered by GPs) \rightarrow

Follow-up at the outpatient clinic



SCL related and other issues addressed

- onew health/medical problems
- worsening of chronic conditions
- skin integrity, PUs assessment (+OT, + registered nurse)
- orespiratory problems (refferal to internal med. spec. at URI Soča)
- OAD related problems
- ospasticity management (referral to the team for baclofen pump at URI Soča)
- opain management
- •sexuality related problems
- oneurogenic bowel and bladder problems (UD at URI Soča, referral to urology)
- oclinical nutrition mnagement (team for clinical nutrition at URI So
- •wheelchair and seat-cushion related problems
- •home and car adaptations
- oprescription of medical devices and aids

osocial status

Referring to other specialists



- Plastic surgeon (UKCL, 1 doctor) the next Tuesday.
- Urologist (UKCL, 3 doctors) few weeks waiting.
- Internal medicine specialist (URI Soča, 2 doctors) the same day.
- Other specialists available as for the general population.

Follow-up at the outpatient clinic



First examination after dismissal

- after 3 months: employed, with specific medical conditions needing early control, with improvement expected
- □after 6 months: all others.

Next examinations/consultations

when needed

Allways after check-up and with GP's or other specialist's referral.



- \square For examination / consultation always needed a referral.
- □ No emergent referrals!
 - > emergency medicine network in Slovenia

Still problems in recognising AD and other SCL related issuess!!!





GP's or other specialist's referral

→ e-referral

Medical rehabilitation after primary rehabilitation



- If inclusion criteria for re-admission are met.
- If medical complications arise that can be solved at URI Soča.
- re-admission at the department.
- therapies at the outpatient clinic.
- Not the same as the Slovenian Paraplegic Association rehabilitation programs!

Path of assessment of a PU



I level (GPs)

- → activation of the home care nursing service
- \rightarrow reffering to other specialists

<u>Il level (specialists)</u>

- → consultation at the plastic surgeon / dermatologist /infectologist office
- → cleaning the PU, giving advice, operation planning and surgery performance
- → exclusion of possible intrinsic causes

III level (URI Soča, UKCL/M)

→ assessing the wound, causes that led to PU, assessing aids, sitting and lying in bed, re-admission is planned.



Thank you for your time and questions.