PRACTICE OBSERVED

Detection and management of hypertension in general practices in north west London

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Abstract

An evaluation of the practice notes and administered correspondences of 904 patients aged 40 and over in a random sample of 25 general practices in north west London showed that 306 (34%) of 708 patients consulting to a 10 year period in 1982 had been examined by a doctor during the year. Of these 306 patients, 134 (44%) had blood pressure recordings made in the course of this examination. The proportion of patients receiving a diagnosis of hypertension was 118 (39%) of these 306 patients. Of the remaining 252 patients, 161 (64%) of 252 had no record of examination or blood pressure recordings. Of the remaining 904 patients, 282 (31%) of 904 had blood pressure recordings in the course of this examination. In 1983, 30 patients were instructed to follow their blood pressure readings, 6 patients had a diagnosis of hypertension and 22 patients had no diagnosis of hypertension. The proportion of patients receiving a diagnosis of hypertension was 19 (63%) of these 30 patients.

Introduction

The results of previous studies have shown that the prevalence of hypertension is high, but that the diagnosis and management of hypertension is inadequate in general practice. The present study was designed to evaluate the prevalence of hypertension and the diagnosis and management of hypertension in general practice.

Methods

The study was carried out in a random sample of 25 general practices in north west London. The patients were aged 40 and over and were seen by a doctor during the year. The results of previous studies have shown that the prevalence of hypertension is high, but that the diagnosis and management of hypertension is inadequate in general practice. The present study was designed to evaluate the prevalence of hypertension and the diagnosis and management of hypertension in general practice.

Results

The study evaluated the prevalence of hypertension in a random sample of 25 general practices in north west London. The prevalence of hypertension was high, with 70% of patients being normotensive. The diagnosis and management of hypertension was inadequate, with only 20% of patients being diagnosed and managed appropriately. The study suggested that more attention should be paid to the prevention and management of hypertension in general practice.

Quality of care in managing hypertension by case finding in north west London

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Abstract

The quality of care in managing hypertension in general practice was evaluated in a random sample of 25 general practices in north west London. The quality of care was assessed by examining the case finding and management of hypertension in each practice. The results of the study showed that the quality of care in managing hypertension was variable, with some practices performing better than others.

Introduction

The quality of care in managing hypertension in general practice was evaluated in a random sample of 25 general practices in north west London. The quality of care was assessed by examining the case finding and management of hypertension in each practice. The results of the study showed that the quality of care in managing hypertension was variable, with some practices performing better than others.