

The Relationship among Chronic Disease, Feeling-for-Their-Age, Sleep Quality, Health-Related Quality of Life and Activities of Daily Living of Community-Dwelling Persons over 55 Years of Age

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Abstract

Japan's aging population rate is increasing and healthy life expectancy has decreases by 10 years shorter than average life expectancy. The aim of this study is to determine the relationship among chronic disease, sleep quality, health-related quality of life (HRQOL), and activities of daily living in people over 55 years old who live in the community. Subjects were 161 persons aged 57 to 90 years who were treated with chronic disease in the outpatient department of the A hospital. Exclusion criteria included patients with dementia, cancer and severe heart disease. The survey evaluation questionnaires included the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI), HRQOL by Short-Form 8 Health Survey (SF-8), and activities of daily living. Variables associated with quality of sleep, HRQOL in univariate analysis with $p < 0.05$ were entered into multivariate analysis using logistic regression with a stepwise forward selection procedure to determine independent variables and their association with major causes. The logistic regression analysis was done using SPSS software and the post-hoc power of the study was estimated using G*power. The level of significance was set at $p < 0.05$. The risk factor of poor sleep quality was because of history of cancer [odds ratio (OR): 3.53, 95% confidence interval (CI): 1.06 - 11.77], and insomnia (OR: 3.25, 95% CI: 1.55 - 6.79). The risk factors of poor physical HRQOL were motor disease (OR: 2.62, 95% CI: 1.36 - 5.07), respiratory dis-

ease (OR: 3.24, 95% CI: 1.27 - 8.26) and having pain (OR: 11.71, 95% CI: 5.35 - 25.66). In addition, anemia was found to be a risk factor of poor mental HRQOL (OR: 4.87, 95% CI: 1.11 - 21.33). The feeling-for-their-body-age (OR: 0.30, 95% CI: 0.15-0.59) was as “younger than actual age” and advanced the risk factor of poor sleep quality. In addition, feeling-for-their-age (OR: 0.44, 95% CI: 0.21 - 0.92) resulted in reduced risk factor of poor physical HRQOL. The risk factor of poor sleep quality was due to a patient with history of cancer. The factor for good sleep quality and the good factor for physical HRQOL were indications of feeling younger than the actual age.

Keywords

Elderly, Health-Related Quality of Life, Sleep Quality, Activities of Daily Living

1. Introduction

Japan's aging population rate is increasing [1], and average healthy life expectancy, and male healthy life expectancy are 9.13 years shorter than the average life expectancy; female healthy life expectancy is 12.68 years shorter than average life expectancy [2]. If people can promote their health and live well, their well-being even if they have some disease, might be able to maintain their quality of life (QOL) and extend their healthy life expectancy. Aged people tend to live with some chronic diseases [3]; therefore, it is important to describe the characteristics of those who are living a vivid life coping with chronic disease.

Sleep is a universal behavior, essential for humans to survive [4] and difficulties in initiating sleep are associated with mortality [5]. However, sleeping is one of the most important health issues for the elderly [6]. The sleep quality decreases with age [7] and the following changes occur. That is increase in daytime drowsiness, decrease in sleeping time, difficulty in getting to sleep, nocturnal awakening, sleep fragmentation, decrease in deep sleeps at stage 3 and 4 of non-REM sleep and the acceleration of circadian rhythm of becoming sleepy in the early evening and awakening in the early morning [8] [9]. Approximately, 33% of the general population suffer from symptoms of insomnia [10]. The symptoms of lack of sleep and insomnia are related to the decrease in operating efficiency [11], the increases in the risks of mental disorders including depression [12], risk of death [13] [14], risk of falling [15] and a decrease in cognitive function [8] [16]. It is also determined that short-duration sleep and waking-up in the early morning are related to a strong sense of fatigue [17].

One of the causes of an abnormality of sleep in the elderly is the decrease in physical activities [18] [19] [20] [21]. Because the lack of physical activities, in particular, affects the role of autonomic nerve system inhibiting obesity and appetite and the activity of biomarker of metabolic system, it is suggested that this likely advances the aging process, leading to physical and brain disorders [22]. It is also reported that exercise improves the sleep quality and mental health [23]

[24], and suggested that physical and social activities enhance memory and improve the quality of sleep [25]. In order for the elderly to live healthy lives, it is important to be active in the daytime and have a high sleep quality.

Similarly, it is reported that the elderly lose their remaining teeth with aging, and their intake of nourishment and chewing ability decrease [26] [27] [28]. Those who have less than 19 teeth and use no denture are in high risk of falling [29] and that chewing ability is related to problems with activities of daily living (ADL) [30], recognition function [31] and over-all HRQOL [32]. Although there are several reports concerning the relationship between chewing ability and QOL relating to health [33] [34], the relationship between chewing ability and the sleep quality has scarcely been studied.

In previous research, the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI), the symptoms of sleep disturbance and the relationship among sleep problems including insomnia, activities of daily living and the existence or non-existence of chronic disease were found. It was reported that sleep disturbance is associated with various chronic diseases including depression [9] [35], heart diseases [9] [35] [36], arthritis [9] [35] [36], lung diseases [35] [36], the problems of precognitive function [35] [37], body aches and pains [36] [37] and restriction in daily activities [9] [38]. Also, it was found that good-quality sleep was related to healthy HRQOL [38] [39]. Moreover, how to recognize their own health conditions and the problems of sleep and sleep quality were addressed. In the case of those who felt they are not healthy, the sleep quality was significantly poor [39] [40], sleeping time was short [39]. This was found related to their daytime drowsiness [9].

Nevertheless, the relationship among sleep quality, activities of daily living and existence or non-existence of chronic disease, including physical and mental HRQOL, has not been examined enough focusing on the feeling-for-their-age and oral cavity function.

The aim of this study is to describe the relationship among chronic disease, sleep quality, HRQOL and activities of daily living of community-dwelling persons over 55 years of age.

2. Methods

2.1. Subjects

Two hundred fifty subjects were selected for this survey who were outpatients at A Hospital. Only 164 subjects consented with 161 of them between the ages of 57 to 90 years old and were on treatment for their chronic disease. Valid response rate was 98.2%. These subjects met the following inclusion criteria: Ability to complete a questionnaire; and over 55 years old with chronic disease. Exclusion criteria included those with dementia, severe heart disease, and those under treatment for cancer disease.

2.2. Study Period

The research study was conducted from July 11, 2016 to January 4, 2017.

2.3. Measures

The following questionnaire forms were administered to obtain the data for the study: The subjective sleep quality was evaluated using The Japanese version of the PSQI (PSQI-J) [41] [42]. The PSQI-J consists of seven components (sleep quality, sleep latency, sleep duration, habitual sleep efficiency, sleep disturbance, use of sleeping medications, and daytime dysfunction) including sleep quality measurements for the previous month [43]. For this study, the PSQI cut-off score of ≥ 6 was set as an indication of poor sleep quality [44].

At the same time, the subject's HRQOL using the Medical Outcomes Study 8-item Short Form Health Survey for Japanese was determined [45]. SF-8 was evaluated with 8 subscales which consists of "physical functioning (PF)", "role physical (RP)", "bodily pain (BP)", "general health (GH)", "vitality (VT)", "social functioning (SF)", "role emotional (RE)", and "mental health (MH)". These subscales were summarized as the "physical health component summary score (PCS)" and "mental health component summary score (MCS)" [45]. The PCS and MCS were calculated by weighting each SF-8 item using a norm-based scoring method given in the instrument guidelines in the national standard values determined from a large-scale survey data for the general Japanese population. The score higher than 50 points meant higher than the average of the Japanese citizens in 2007 in general. In this study, the scores above 50 points were considered indications of good HRQOL.

The items for ADL were based on previous research [9] [29] [30] [31] [35] [36] [37] [39] [40]. The 14 ADL items were the following: gender, age, whether they live alone or not, having pain or not, lifestyle habits (exercise, job, hobby, drowsiness in the daytime, daytime nap, smoking), chewing ability (hard, sticky, and soft food), and wearing false tooth. Chewing ability was determined as poor when it was hard to eat either hard, sticky or soft food items.

Feeling-for-their-age about their bodily functions was derived from questions on whether or not the subjects felt that their bodies were younger than their actual age. Similarly, the chronic disease names were collected from the subjects' respective electronic medical record. Some patients had multiple diseases.

For measuring the ADL and Chronic disease, the data were divided into at present or not at present. For the PSQI, data were divided into good or poor, and for SF-8 (PCS, and MCS) the data were divided into two groups; those 50 points or more, respectively. Variables associated with sleep quality, HRQOL in univariate analysis with $p < 0.05$ were entered into multivariate analysis using logistic regression with a stepwise forward selection procedure to determine independent variables, and identify variables associated with major causes.

The logistic regression analysis was done using IBM SPSS ver. 24.0. The level of significance was set at $p < 0.05$.

Post-hoc power analysis for a logistic regression was conducted using the statistical power analyses software: the G*Power (version 3.1) [46]. Sufficient sam-

sample size using an alpha 0.05, a power of 0.80, one-tailed test, and the desired sample size was 157 based on the aforementioned assumptions.

2.4. Ethical Considerations

The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of Tokushima University Hospital (No. 2648) and of A Hospital, Tokushima, Japan.

The following issues were carefully explained to the patients orally and in writing. The purpose and content of the study, and the voluntary nature of participation; if they refused to participate they would not cause any disadvantages; and the freedom of agreeing or not agreeing with the findings of the study, or its use in presentations of the research, and the rights of anonymity and secure confidentiality. The patients included in the study provided written informed consents to participate.

3. Results

The subject's basic characteristics are shown in **Table 1**. The mean age was 76.16 \pm 7.75 years (range: 57 - 90 years).

Table 1. Basic characteristics of the participants (n = 161).

Survey Items	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	\pm	SD
PSQI: Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (points)	0.00	16.00	6.17	\pm	3.57
PSQI \geq 6 vs. <6			80 vs. 81		
PCS: Physical Component Summary (points)	17.83	61.76	46.56	\pm	8.65
PCS \geq 50 vs. <50			71 vs. 90		
MCS: Mental Component Summary (points)	31.89	66.66	52.63	\pm	6.07
MCS \geq 50 vs. <50			117 vs. 44		
Age (years)*	57.00	90.00	76.16	\pm	7.75
			n		%
			55-64	15	9.3
			65-74	53	32.9
			75-84	65	40.4
			85-90	28	17.4
Gender			Male	74	46.0
			Female	87	54.0
Job Type (n = 49)			Office worker	1	2.0
			Agriculture	12	24.5
			Fishery	16	32.7
			Self-employed business	1	2.0
			Public employees	2	4.1
			Others	17	34.7

Job type: It shows only employed people. *In Japan, people over 65 years old can receive the old-age basic pension at the age of 65, if people have been covered under the National Pension and Employees' Pension Insurance Systems. There were 146 subjects among the 161 subjects who were 65 years old or older.

Table 2 shows the relations among chronic disease, sleep quality, and PCS/MCS. Poor sleep quality was associated with having diabetes (OR: 2.04, 95% CI: 1.07 - 3.91), history of cancer (OR: 3.40, 95% CI: 1.05 - 11.03), and insomnia (OR: 3.19, 95% CI: 1.54 - 6.62). The results of stepwise logistic analysis showed that poor sleep quality was associated with history of cancer (OR: 3.53, 95% CI: 1.06 - 11.77), and insomnia (OR: 3.25, 95% CI: 1.55 - 6.79).

In the relations between PCS and chronic disease: motor disease (OR: 2.56, 95% CI: 1.35 - 4.88), respiratory disease (OR: 3.14, 95% CI: 1.26 - 7.82), and urological disease (OR: 2.06, 95% CI: 1.01 - 4.21) were risk factors for poor physical HRQOL. Stepwise logistic analysis showed that motor disease (OR: 2.62, 95% CI:

Table 2. Relationship among chronic disease, sleep quality, and physical/mental quality of life (n = 161).

Chronic disease	PSQI ¹			PCS ²			MCS ²		
	PSQI ≥ 6		Univariate	PCS < 50		Univariate	MCS < 50		Univariate
	n	%	OR (95%CI)	n	%	OR (95%CI)	n	%	OR (95%CI)
Diabetes	37	23.0	<u>2.04 (1.07 - 3.91)</u>	37	23.0	1.37 (0.72 - 2.61)	15	9.3	0.80 (0.39 - 1.65)
Diseases related to the brain	16	9.9	1.59 (0.69 - 3.68)	18	11.2	1.72 (0.72 - 4.11)	7	4.3	0.92 (0.36 - 2.35)
Cardiovascular disease	35	21.7	1.02 (0.55 - 1.91)	42	26.1	1.34 (0.72 - 2.53)	16	9.9	0.67 (0.33 - 1.36)
Hypertension	64	39.8	1.40 (0.67 - 2.93)	68	42.2	0.83 (0.39 - 1.75)	33	20.5	0.86 (0.38 - 1.93)
Dyslipidemia	36	22.4	0.80 (0.43 - 1.48)	37	23.0	0.54 (0.29 - 1.02)	20	12.4	0.88 (0.44 - 1.76)
History of cancer	12	7.5	<u>3.40 (1.05 - 11.03)</u>	11	6.8	1.84 (0.61 - 5.56)	5	3.1	1.24 (0.40 - 3.78)
Motor disease	51	31.7	1.63 (0.87 - 3.07)	61	37.9	<u>2.56 (1.35 - 4.88)</u>	27	16.8	1.23 (0.60 - 2.49)
Gastrointestinal disease	47	29.2	1.26 (0.68 - 2.35)	54	33.5	1.46 (0.78 - 2.73)	23	14.3	0.82 (0.41 - 1.64)
Respiratory disease	16	9.9	1.20 (0.54 - 2.65)	23	14.3	<u>3.14 (1.26 - 7.82)</u>	6	3.7	0.61 (0.23 - 1.62)
Urological disease	24	14.9	1.08(0.55 - 2.13)	32	19.9	<u>2.06 (1.01 - 4.21)</u>	10	6.2	0.64 (0.28 - 1.42)
Hepatobiliary and pancreatic disease	23	14.3	2.11 (0.98 - 4.54)	22	13.7	1.32 (0.62 - 2.81)	12	7.5	1.45 (0.65 - 3.24)
Thyroid disease	8	5.0	2.14 (0.62 - 7.41)	5	3.1	0.54 (0.16 - 1.77)	6	3.7	2.92 (0.89 - 9.60)
Insomnia	32	19.9	<u>3.19 (1.54 - 6.62)</u>	29	18.0	1.51 (0.75 - 3.05)	15	9.3	1.44 (0.68 - 3.03)
Disease related to colon	4	2.5	0.48 (0.14 - 1.66)	6	3.7	0.77 (0.24 - 2.51)	2	1.2	0.51 (0.11 - 2.42)
Disease related to neurology	11	6.8	1.46 (0.55 - 3.83)	9	5.6	0.68 (0.26 - 1.77)	3	1.9	0.46 (0.13 - 1.67)
Anemia	5	3.1	1.73 (0.40 - 7.51)	3	1.9	0.46 (0.11 - 1.97)	5	3.1	<u>4.87 (1.11 - 21.33)</u>
Dizziness	15	9.3	1.85 (0.76 - 4.50)	17	10.6	2.13 (0.83 - 5.46)	4	2.5	0.49 (0.16 - 1.51)

^{a)}A significant one in univariate was used as an explanatory variable for the stepwise logistic regression analysis in relation to poor PSQI, PCS and MCS. PSQI: Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index; PCS: Physical Component Summary; MCS: Mental Component Summary; The number shows people who suffered from the disease. ¹⁾The score higher than 6 points means poor sleep quality. ²⁾The score higher than 50 points means higher than the average of the Japanese citizens in 2007 in general.

1.36 - 5.07) and respiratory disease (OR: 3.24, 95% CI: 1.27 - 8.26) were related poor physical HRQOL. In addition, anemia was a risk factor of poor mental health HRQOL (OR: 4.87, 95% CI: 1.11 - 21.33).

Table 3 shows relations among basic characteristics, lifestyle habits, feeling-for-their-age, sleep quality and PCS/MCS. Being a female (OR: 2.20, 95% CI: 1.17 - 4.14) was a risk factor for poor sleep quality.

Table 3. Relationship among basic characteristics, lifestyle habits, feeling of age, sleep quality and physical/mental quality of life (n = 161).

Survey items	Response	PSQI ¹			PCS ²			MCS ²			
		PSQI ≥ 6		Multivariate ^{a)} OR (95%CI)	PCS < 50		Multivariate ^{a)} OR (95%CI)	MCS < 50		Multivariate ^{a)} OR (95%CI)	
		n	%		OR (95%CI)	n		%	n		%
Gender	Female	51	31.7	<u>2.20 (1.17 - 4.14)</u>	51	31.7	1.27 (0.68 - 2.38)	24	14.9	1.03 (0.51 - 2.06)	
Living with family.	I live with my family.	62	38.5	0.72 (0.33 - 1.60)	69	42.9	0.60 (0.27 - 1.35)	34	21.1	0.79 (0.34 - 1.83)	
Living with spouse.	I live with spouse.	47	29.2	0.84 (0.45 - 1.58)	53	32.3	0.74 (0.39 - 1.41)	27	16.8	1.03 (0.51 - 2.10)	
Pain	I have a pain.	39	24.2	1.19 (0.64 - 2.21)	63	39.1	<u>11.47 (5.33 - 24.71)</u>	<u>11.71 (5.35 - 25.66)</u>	21	13.0	1.07 (0.53 - 2.13)
Exercise	I exercise habit.	68	42.2	0.89 (0.37 - 2.16)	74	46.0	0.51 (0.20 - 1.31)	38	23.6	1.08 (0.40 - 2.94)	
Job	I have a job.	21	13.0	0.67 (0.34 - 1.33)	25	15.5	0.75 (0.38 - 1.48)	11	6.8	0.69 (0.32 - 1.52)	
Hobby	I have a hobby.	57	34.2	0.87 (0.44 - 1.72)	61	37.9	0.77 (0.39 - 1.53)	27	16.8	0.57 (0.28 - 1.19)	
Drowsiness in the daytime	I have a drowsiness in the daytime.	52	32.3	1.15 (0.61 - 2.19)	59	36.6	1.24 (0.65 - 2.36)	29	18.0	1.17 (0.56 - 2.41)	
Daytime nap	I take a nap.	45	28.0	1.03 (0.55 - 1.92)	52	32.3	1.19 (0.64 - 2.22)	24	14.9	0.93 (0.46 - 1.86)	
Age of feeling	I feel I am young feeling.	30	18.6	<u>0.41 (0.22 - 0.78)</u>	36	22.4	<u>0.46 (0.24 - 0.87)</u>	<u>0.44 (0.21 - 0.92)</u>	18	11.2	0.66 (0.33 - 1.33)
Age of body	I feel I am young body.	18	11.2	<u>0.30 (0.15 - 0.59)</u>	<u>0.30 (0.15 - 0.59)</u>	28	17.4	0.62 (0.32 - 1.18)	12	7.5	0.58 (0.27 - 1.24)
Smoking history	I have a smoking history.	19	11.8	0.53 (0.27 - 1.05)	29	18.0	1.21 (0.61 - 2.39)	11	6.8	0.69 (0.32 - 1.52)	
Smoking	I have a smoke.	4	2.5	0.42 (0.12 - 1.43)	8	5.0	1.29 (0.40 - 4.12)	3	1.9	0.78 (0.21 - 2.99)	
Chewing hard food	I can't bite hard food.	27	16.8	1.21 (0.62 - 2.35)	31	19.3	1.34 (0.68 - 2.63)	15	9.3	1.16 (0.56 - 2.43)	
Chewing sticky food	I can't bite sticky food.	22	13.7	1.82 (0.85 - 3.87)	20	12.4	0.98 (0.47 - 2.07)	11	6.8	1.23 (0.54 - 2.77)	
Chewing soft food	I can't bite soft food.	3	1.9	-	2	1.2	1.60 (0.14 - 17.91)	0	0.0	-	
Chewing ability	Biting ability is bad.	39	24.2	1.80 (0.96 - 3.39)	38	23.6	1.06 (0.56 - 1.99)	20	12.4	1.24 (0.62 - 2.50)	
False tooth	I wear false tooth.	48	29.8	1.39 (0.75 - 2.60)	54	33.5	1.46 (0.78 - 2.73)	24	14.9	0.93 (0.46 - 1.86)	

^{a)}A significant one in univariate was used as an explanatory variable for the stepwise logistic regression analysis in relation to poor PSQI, PCS and MCS. It shows the number of respondents who answered "Yes" to each question. PSQI: Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index; PCS: Physical Component Summary; MCS: Mental Component Summary; ¹⁾The score higher than 6 points means poor sleep quality. ²⁾The score higher than 50 points means higher than the average of the Japanese citizens in 2007 in general.

In contrast, the age of those who felt young (OR: 0.41, 95% CI: 0.22 - 0.78) and the age of those who felt that their bodies were younger than their actual age (OR: 0.30, 95% CI: 0.15 - 0.59), were found to show a reduction as a risk factor for poor sleep quality. In the stepwise logistic analysis, it was shown that the feeling-for-their-body-age (OR: 0.30, 95% CI: 0.15 - 0.59) as younger than actual age indicated a reduction as a risk factor of poor sleep quality.

However, in the relation among PCS, basic characteristics, lifestyle habits and feeling-for-their-age: physical pain was found to be a risk factor (OR: 11.47, 95% CI: 5.33 - 24.71) for poor physical HRQOL, in contrast to those who felt about their age as younger than their actual age which showed a reduced risk factor (OR: 0.46, 95% CI: 0.24 - 0.87). In addition, the stepwise analysis results showed that physical pain (OR: 11.71, 95% CI: 5.35 - 25.66) was a risk factor for poor physical HRQOL, while feelings about their age as younger than actual age (OR: 0.44, 95% CI: 0.21 - 0.92) indicated a reduction as a risk factor for poor physical HRQOL.

4. Discussion

In this research, it was found that sleep quality was affected by chronic disease such as cancer.

Sleep disturbance is a common symptom among patients with cancer [47] [48], and the pain caused by cancer [49], the use of palliative drugs for the treatment and the fatigue caused by surgery, chemotherapy, immunotherapy and irradiation therapy were related to effects of sleep disturbance. It was reported that the insomnia of patients with cancer occurs in relation to depression and anxiety [50]. However, in this study, because the subjects were not under cancer treatment, this was an exclusion criterion. It is highly unlikely that the treatment of cancer affected the subjects' sleep quality. Nevertheless, the possibility was considered that the mental condition caused by anxiety toward cancer recurrence and the aftermath of cancer treatment, that it might partially worsen the sleep quality.

However, there a report was found that cancer incidence has no relationship between the symptoms of insomnia, including difficulty in getting to sleep, nocturnal awakening and sleep problems including short sleep and daytime drowsiness [35], so that there is room for further research. Nevertheless, insomnia was found to be causes of poor sleep quality.

It is reported that the PSQI can distinguish the patients with primary insomnia in comparison with healthy subjects [51]. Because it can detect the sleep quality and the symptom of sleep disturbance [43], PSQI is a measure with good sensitivity. However, because PSQI is for the subjective evaluation of sleep quality, the result may possibly be different from the actual physical condition. In this situation, it is also important to objectively confirm whether the patient actually has been getting enough sleep by using the combination of actigraphy and heart rate variability analysis in the future [52].

Although no relationship between the sleep quality and other chronic diseases was observed, it was reported that poor control of blood glucose in type 2 diabetes cases could be a risk factor in the reduction of the sleep quality [53]. Similarly, heart diseases are risk factors with sleep durations of shorter than 6 hours, difficulty in getting to sleep and nocturnal and early morning awakening [9].

There is no relation between diabetes and the sleep quality [37]. The result of this research supports the latter report.

Regarding the relationship among the ADL, feeling-for-their-age and sleep quality, it is reported that feeling that feelings about one's age as younger than the actual age can favorably affect the sleep quality. It is reported that the sleep quality of the elderly who feel healthy is better [40].

Sustaining everyday customs of community elderly activities is related to decreased insomnia [54]. The subjects of this study were persons 55 years or older and are living in the community while suffering from chronic disease. They were happy with their present physical condition rather than thinking that their physical condition is appropriate only for their age, and that their self-efficacy made them feel young. It is highly possible that these thoughtful concerns favorably affected their sleep quality. In researches for the future, it is critical to investigate the values and histories of the lives of the subjects of this survey, their connection with others around them, and continue to survey the reasons for feeling younger than their actual age.

However, no other relationships with sleep quality were found with the other survey items.

It is reported that insomnia is often found in women [36] and the sleep quality is worse than in men [37]. However, this study did not clearly show the relationship between gender and the sleep quality, although it is reported that there is a relationship between insomnia and bodily pain [35] [36], it was not clarified in this study.

Regarding the relationship between PCS and chronic disease, the existence of motor system disease and respiratory disease was a factor lowering physical HRQOL.

It is said that the QOL of the patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) becomes remarkably worse as it becomes more serious [55] [56]. In this research, they were analyzed as the patients with respiratory disease, not by diagnostic name, so that the influence by detailed state of disease was not cleared, but the existence of respiratory disease was considered a factor to lower physical HRQOL.

Feeling younger than actual age was a good factor for high physical HRQOL. The factor for feeling younger than their actual age has not been made clear. It is possible that those who still feel young do not take small physical problems in a negative way. Having less physical problems, comparing to those of the same generation, may make them feel younger. However, the relationship between whether they feel younger than their actual age and HRQOL could not be found

in the previous research.

Anemia was a factor for lowering mental HRQOL. It is reported that anemia was a factor for lowering HRQOL affecting the physical function and activities of adolescents with chronic liver disease and influence on their parents [57]. It is reported that the treatment of anemia (Epoetin after therapy) for the patients who were receiving adjuvant chemotherapy for cancer or the combination therapy of interferon alfa (IFN) and ribavirin (RBV) for hepatitis C can improve QOL by improving the level of hemoglobin [58] [59]. From the above, it is considered that the diseases accompanied by anemia and the side effects of therapy lower mental HRQOL. However, it could not be clarified the relationship of those from the result of this research.

5. Limitations

In this research, the relationship between the duration of treatment, test value and risk factors of chronic diseases were not analyzed. It is a limitation of this research that the number of subjects was small. Regarding the relationship between insomnia and PSQI, because PSQI is for the detection of the symptoms of sleep disturbance, it was presented as a positive control. Similarly, it is considered that because bodily pain was included as a subscale of SF-8, there was bodily pain as a risk factor of physical HRQOL.

The relationship between research participants feeling younger than their actual age and the activities of daily living enhancing the sleep quality and living was not clarified. It is required to investigate the background where people can feel young physically and mentally and their living activities in detail in future research.

6. Conclusion

The risk factor of poor sleep quality was found to be on the subjects' history of having cancer. The factor for good sleep quality was about the subjects' feeling-for-their-age, in that, because they felt younger physically, they were able to sleep better. The good factor for physical HRQOL was the subjects' feeling of being younger than their actual age. Therefore, medical staff should carefully observe and support patients' sleep quality of those having a history of cancer treatment. In addition, medical staff has to focus on patients who are younger regarding their "feeling-for-their-age" in order to improve good sleep quality and HRQOL.

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