The Association between Patient Dependence and Caregiver Burden in Alzheimer's Disease

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Objective

- To examine the relationship between patient dependence and caregiver burden in Alzheimer's Disease (AD) patients.

Methods

- The study used data from the Alzheimer's Disease Patient Caregiver Study (ADPCS), a longitudinal study of caregivers of AD patients.
- Caregivors were assessed for patient dependence using the 13-item Katz Activity of Daily Living (ADL) Scale and the 13-item Lawton Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) Scale.
- Caregivors were assessed for caregiver burden using the 34-item Caregiver Strain Index (CSI) and the 13-item Zarit Burden Inventory (ZBI).
- Caregivors were also assessed for demographic and socio-economic characteristics.

Results

- A significant difference was observed between the Q1 (DS=6) and Q2 (DS=7) quartile levels for the ZBI total score, with the highest score of 6).
- A significant difference was also observed between the Q1 (DS=6) and Q2 (DS=7) quartile levels for the CSI total score.

Conclusion

- Patient dependence and caregiver burden are significantly related in Alzheimer's Disease patients.

References