BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

38 healthcare professionals who teach long term catheter users to intermittent catheterize assessed the VaPro hydrophilic intermittent catheter with their patients and completed an online survey about their experience. Healthcare professionals were recruited by a market research firm and were compensated for their time to complete the online survey.

Survey Fielding: late July to early October 2014

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE VAPRO CATHETER

When thinking about their day-to-day care of patients, nearly half of respondents said no-touch catheterization was “extremely important” (45%), and another third said it was “important” (37%).

82% of respondents were “impressed” (53%) or “very impressed” (29%) with the VaPro catheter they assessed. No respondents were disappointed.

Ease of use was most often cited as a reason why respondents were impressed with the VaPro catheter (45%), along with advantages related to sterility (18%) and patient comfort (18%). The touch free features of the VaPro catheter was specifically mentioned as an advantage (21%). 5% of respondents found the catheter difficult to use.
RECOMMENDING THE VAPro CATHETER

The vast majority of respondents would recommend the VaPro catheter to a patient, with 39% “highly likely” and 50% “likely” to recommend. 10% of respondents reported they were “somewhat unlikely” to recommend the catheter.

The most frequently mentioned reason why a healthcare professional would recommend the VaPro catheter to a patient was “ease of use” (42%), followed by helping to prevent touch contamination (24%) and “patient comfort” (16%). For those respondents who were “somewhat unlikely” to recommend the VaPro catheter, reasons mentioned related to patient choice and concerns about cost and coverage.

Similarly, the vast majority of respondents would also recommend the VaPro catheter to a colleague (39% “highly likely,” 55% “likely”). The respondents cited “ease of use” (50%), followed by the benefits of the catheter staying sterile (29%) as reasons to recommend the VaPro catheter. Catheter lubricity was mentioned by 10% of respondents. 5% of respondents reported they were “somewhat unlikely” or “highly unlikely” to recommend the VaPro catheter to their colleagues.

When asked to describe the VaPro catheter to a colleague, respondents focused on the ease of use as it relates to improving patient compliance and preventing touch contamination, using words like “user friendly,” “practical and easy,” and “simple.”

ASSESSMENT OF FEATURES AND PATIENT TYPES

All of the features of the catheter were rated “valuable” or “very valuable” by 84% or more of respondents. 97% found ease of insertion, no-touch catheterization, and ease of opening the package “valuable” or “very valuable.” The lowest-rated feature, the protective tip, was still rated as “valuable” or “very valuable” by 84% of respondents.

Please rate how likely you would be to recommend the VaPro intermittent catheter to the following patient types as their primary catheter:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient Type</th>
<th>Likelihood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spina Bifida</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Sclerosis</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing spinal cord injured, paraplegic</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other patient types</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing spinal cord injured, quadriplegic</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newly injured spinal cord patients, paraplegic</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

87% of respondents cited patients with Spina Bifida and 84% of respondents cited patients with Multiple Sclerosis and patients with existing paraplegia as good candidates for the VaPro catheter. The respondents cited patients with “neurogenic bladder” and “urinary retention” as “other patient types” who would be good candidates for the VaPro catheter.

Those who evaluated the coudé tip catheter would be most likely to use it for patients with strictures (63%) and false passage (42%). Patients with BPH or enlarged prostate were also mentioned as others appropriate for the coudé tip product.

CONCLUDING SUMMARY

On the whole, the respondents’ reaction to the VaPro catheter was positive. Respondents found the catheter easy to use, comfortable for patients, and helpful as far as preventing touch contamination. Many would recommend the VaPro catheter to patients and to colleagues, and many value the catheter features. While a few worry that coverage or cost would prevent them from using the VaPro catheter, they would offer the VaPro catheter to patients if those barriers did not materialize.
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