

A survey of patients' view of home nebulizer treatment for chronic lung disease

PURPOSE

- To examine patients' views on receiving nebulizer therapy

BACKGROUND

- There are diverse opinions by Healthcare professionals of the benefits of nebulizer therapy for patients with chronic respiratory disease.
- Little emphasis has been placed on the patient's view for this type of treatment.
- Some studies report an increased quality of life with nebulizer use and feeling less short of breath.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- A two-part questionnaire was mailed to 82 patients receiving home nebulizer therapy.
- Part one consisted of 24 questions based on medical significance.
- Part two of the questionnaire examined treatment compliance.

Study Limitations:

- Results are subjective
- Not all respondents had the same medical condition
- Results suggest that more patient-centered approaches to nebulizer therapy may be beneficial.

RESULTS

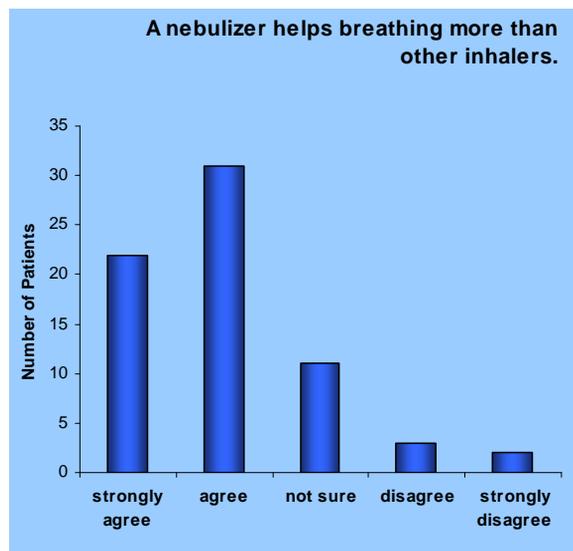
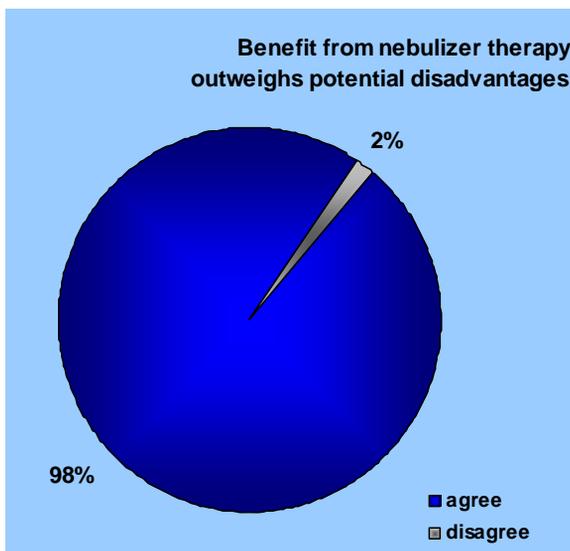
- Seventy-five out of 82 patients returned the questionnaire for a response rate of 91.5%.
- 76% of the respondents had COPD.
- Respondents overwhelmingly reported the benefits of nebulizer therapy compared to the disadvantages.
- More than 70% found that nebulizers help more than other types of inhalers.

98% vs. 2%

Patients agreed that the benefits of nebulizer therapy prevail over potential disadvantages



Survey: Patients view nebulizer therapy as very beneficial



- Mean patient age was 71.5 years
- 57 had COPD, 6 asthma, 2 suffered from bronchiectasis and 8 from idiopathic dyspnea
- Nebulized medication was albuterol and/or ipratropium bromide

