

Health Care Professional's Bowel Management Practices for Neurogenic Bowel Dysfunction: Development of a Web-Based Survey

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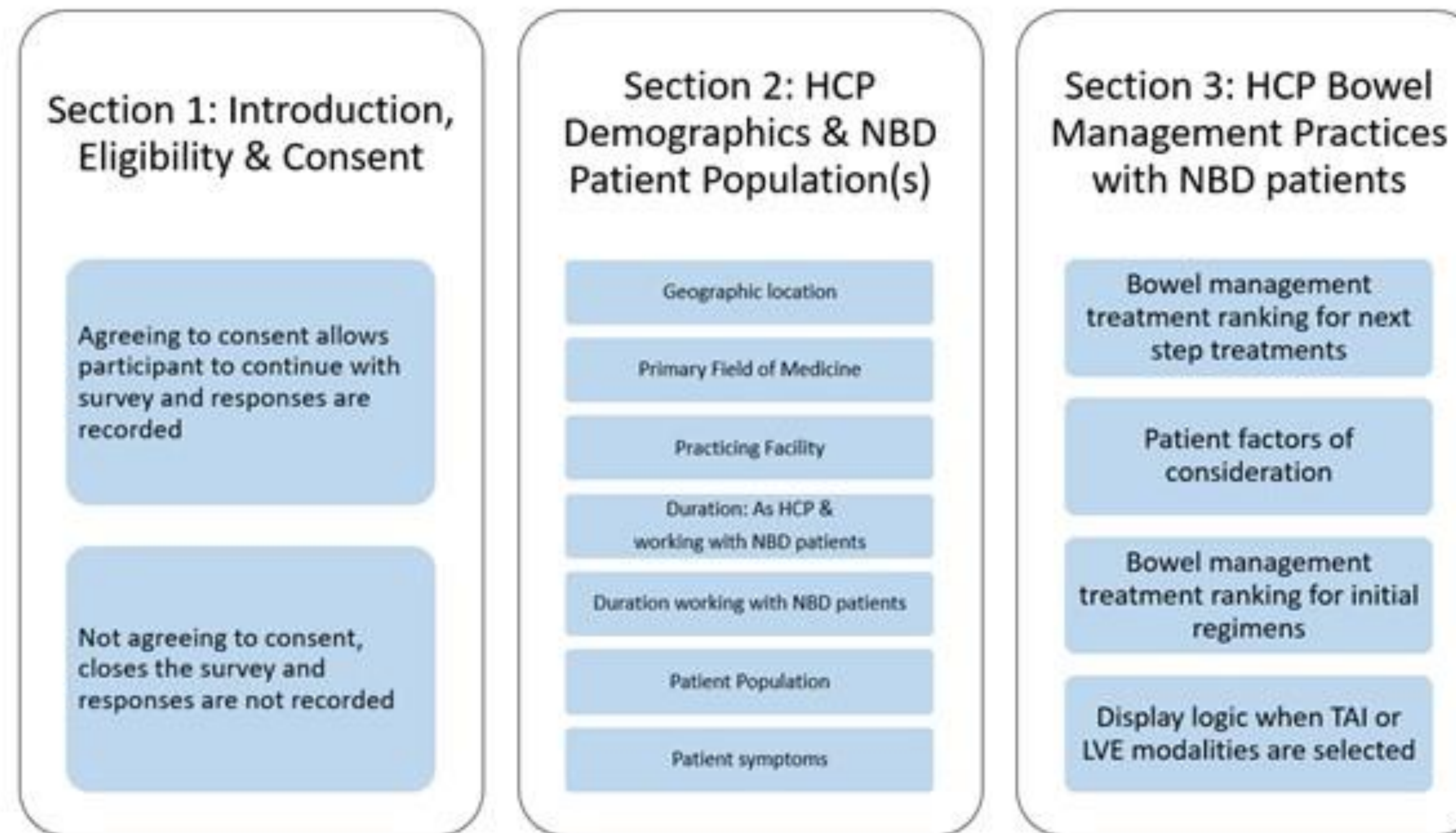
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Background and AIM

- Neurogenic Bowel Dysfunction (NBD), is an “impairment of the gastrointestinal and anorectal function from a lesion in the nervous system”.¹ As a result of the inability to evacuate the bowel, persons with NBD may experience severe constipation and fecal incontinence which may lead to an increased risk of needing emergency care.²
- Despite clinically documented success with transanal irrigation (TAI), evidence on prescribing TAI vs. large volume enemas (LVE) in NBD is missing. Therefore, a survey was developed by a multi-disciplinary group of Health Care Providers (HCP) with NBD expertise.
- Aims of the study include understanding bowel management strategies by HCP for persons with NBD.

Methods and Materials

- Four HCPs with NBD expertise participated in four virtual platform meetings to develop the survey.
- NBD experts developed pertinent questions for the study. Survey participant eligibility includes residency in the United States, HCPs working with persons with NBD.
- Participation is voluntary, anonymous, no compensation/incentive provided.



Results

The authors developed a 3-part, 17-questions, cross-sectional, anonymized, online, survey, asking HCPs bowel management practices based on clinical expertise and published clinical management guidelines for NBD. Section 1 (1 question): introduction and consent; Section 2 (8 questions): HCPs experience, type of NBD population. Section 3 (8 questions): bowel management practices for NBD. Survey launch date, June, 2022 with 90 responses to date.

CONCLUSION

Published evidence of prescribing practices for TAI is lacking. The development of the HCP survey will give insight on HCPs management and recommendations for persons with NBD. The survey will aid in determining how to improve NBD management based on the existing clinical practice guidelines to enhance health, wellbeing, and quality of life of people with NBD.

1. Knowledge Now, PM&R. American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. 2019.
2. Panicker, J. N., & Sakakibara, R. (2020). Lower Urinary Tract and Bowel Dysfunction in Neurologic Disease. *CONTINUUM Lifelong Learning in Neurology*, 26(1), 178–199.
3. Emmanuel, A. Review of the efficacy and safety of transanal irrigation for neurogenic bowel dysfunction. *Spinal Cord* 48, 664–673 (2010). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sc.2010.5>

Participate in the Survey

- Add your voice to further research about current clinical practices of bowel management in NBD patients in the United States.
- If you are an HCP who practices in the United States and work with, treat, or prescribe bowel management methods for patients with NBD, you qualify to take this brief survey
- 15 minutes or less to complete
- By consenting to participate in the survey, you agree to allow your answers to be used by Coloplast Corp. which may be shared with third parties for research, communications, development, aggregated, or compiled anonymously.

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