CACHEXIA Score (CASCO)

Introduction
Cachexia is a term originating from the Greek “kakos” and “hexis” meaning “bad condition”. The cachectic state is observed in many pathological conditions such as cancer, COPD, sepsis or chronic heart failure. Despite the efforts to find suitable clinical biomarkers to map out the different cohorts affected by cachexia, some type of cachexia scoring tool is still necessary to classify patients according to the severity of the syndrome and take decisions about their treatment and support measures.

Bearing this in mind, the object of the present technological tool is to fulfil the existing gap in the classification of cachectic patients by introducing a new score that takes into consideration the main parameters involved in the cachectic syndrome.

Description. How it works?
The aim of the score is to overcome the problem of patient staging in cachexia. CASCO considers five main different factors to evaluate the patient status: body weight and lean body mass loss, anorexia, inflammation, immunological and metabolic disturbances, physical performance and quality of life. The score’s scale goes from 0 to 100 classifying patients with mild, moderate, severe and terminal phase cachexia. The score also takes into consideration the condition known as pre-cachexia.

Advantages
No clinical scoring system is presently available for patients suffering from cachexia. CASCO questionnaire will facilitate cachexia staging and therefore will allow for a more adequate therapy.

Field of Uses
CASCO may be used in patients with cancer, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, sepsis, severe burn, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cardiovascular pathology, nutrition disorder, neuromuscular disease, hyperthyroidism, muscle atrophy and/or distrophy.

Current stage of development
CASCO is currently under clinical validation in 3 different hospitals from 3 different countries (Spain, Brazil and Italy).

Intellectual Property rights
Copyright® Universitat de Barcelona, 2011 All rights reserved.

Access
CASCO questionnaire is available in an editable pdf form which once completed allows data import to a spreadsheet. CASCO questionnaire is available on website www.fbg.ub.es under different license models. A specimen is also available at the following link

Reference

Ref. Code: AVCRI137

Contact
Salvador Mena; smena@fbg.ub.es
Tel: +34 934.039.795