

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Congress and Medicare Expo on

# TRAUMA & CRITICAL CARE

March 13-14, 2017 London, UK

## The effect of clinical pathway implementation on healing of post lower limb amputation for diabetic patients

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Diabetic lower limb amputation remains the serious outcome of diabetic foot complications. It has been consistently shown that the best results of diabetic stump care occur when clinical pathway/an interdisciplinary approach is taken toward treatment. The aim of the study is to determine the effect of implementing a clinical pathway on healing of post lower limb amputation for diabetic patients. The study was carried out in the vascular unit, Department of Surgery at Alexandria Main University Hospital and Private Alexandria Vascular Center (AVC) using a quasi experimental research design. The study's subjects included 40 diabetic patients undergoing first exposure to unilateral lower limb amputation and free from vital organ failure. Study's subjects are randomly divided into control and study groups (20 patients each). Three tools were used for data collection: Preoperative diabetic lower limb amputation assessment, clinical pathway variances observation checklist and patient satisfaction scale. The study's results imply statistical significance difference in favor of the study group regarding wound healing during the second to the sixth week in post operative follow-up period. The results also imply that the study group has significantly higher satisfaction level as compared to the control one. In conclusion, diabetic patients underwent lower limb amputation exhibited significantly better post clinical pathway health outcomes comparing with control one. The study recommended to apply the clinical pathway for diabetic patients undergoing lower limb amputation rather than the hospital routine care.

### Biography

Kawther Gaber Mohammed Tolba has completed her PhD at Alexandria University, Faculty of Nursing. Currently, she is a Professor Emeritus of Medical Surgical Nursing, Faculty of Nursing, Alexandria University. She worked as Vice Dean of Learning and Students Affairs for four years at Tabuk University, KSA. She has published more than 30 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of *Alexandria Scientific Nursing Journal*.

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