

Comparative analysis regarding quality of life perception in healthy and chronic ill children through the impact of social and family related factors

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Abstract

Background. The quality of life is a notion which has two components: objective and subjective multiaxial, and every axis is the result of the aggregate of the seven life domains. The subjective aspects of life quality can be appreciated by the level of satisfaction on these aspects depending on their importance for each person. The specialty literature has revealed important differences between the perceptions of ill children and those of healthy children.

Aims. The aim of our study was to do a comparative analysis of the answers given, regarding the determinant aspects of the quality of life, of the importance and satisfaction of it, by two different groups of children and adolescents (one with chronic diseases and one healthy) in order to identify the differences of perception and satisfaction, as well as the socio-medical factors with the impact on the quality of life in children with chronic diseases.

Methods. The observational, descriptive study was based on the method of inquiry, using as an instrument an original questionnaire, anonymous, self applied on two groups of children and adolescents with chronic diseases (n=67) and healthy (n=310), within the period 2007-2008.

Results. The study showed us a number of differences between the two groups, statistically significant, regarding the perception and satisfaction of some life quality aspects.

Conclusions. The differences in perception of some quality life aspects observed between the two groups studied shows the utility and necessity of performing this type of analysis in order to identify the socio-medical factors that influence life quality and for preventing the negative effects on it through specific measures adapted to each child with a chronic disease or otherwise healthy.

Keywords: life quality, social and family factors, children with chronic diseases, healthy children, questionnaire.