Coping with accidents and chronic diseases in childhood (CADKID project)

Original title / Originaltitel
Die Bewältigungen von Unfällen und chronischen Kranheiten im Kindesalter

Summary / Zusammenfassung
This project addresses the psychosocial adjustment of children with chronic diseases or accident-related injuries. Based on a transactional model of stress, we investigate how appraisal, coping and well-being change over time and which factors predict the psychosocial adjustment process. As predictors, disease/accident related features, along with psychosocial variables concerning the child and the parents are included. Psychosocial predictors among parents comprise personality, coping, social support, distress reactions, life events and family relations. Among children, they comprise personality and social support. Children’s appraisal and coping function as mediators in the model. Outcome variable comprise symptoms of mental disorders, indicators of mental and physical well-being, and indicators of social adjustment (friendship, grades in school).

By January 2006 the sample includes 300 children (aged 6.5-14.5) consecutively admitted to five Swiss children's hospitals with a diagnosis of cancer (chronic, life-threatening), diabetes or epilepsy (chronic, non life-threatening), or because of accident (acute, non life-threatening). Participants are assessed at different time-points: 5-6 weeks, 6 months and 1 year after admission to the hospital. Patients with cancer and diabetes are also assessed 2 and 3 years after diagnosis. The first assessment comprises a personal interview with the child and questionnaires to both parents and the teacher. The child reports psychotraumatic stress symptoms, appraisal, social support, and coping. The child’s mother reports about further symptoms of the child, the child’s personality, and family relations. Father and mother report about own symptoms of distress, own appraisal, and coping. The second assessment is by mail. Both parents report about the child’s well-being again. The third, fourth and fifth assessment includes the same variables as the first assessment.

Weitere Informationen unter http://www.kispi.uzh.ch/af/ForschungLehre/Psychosomatik/CADKID-1-1_de.html

Publications / Publikationen
1. Peer-reviewed papers


2. Abstracts


Keywords / Suchbegriffe
chronic disease, accidents, children, coping, posttraumatic stress

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