

CHRONIC ILLNESS AMONG THE SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

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ABSTRACT

School age is that phase of life when children become quite conscious and expressive in terms of their problems. They are quite accurate and quick to report about any of their pain or illness to the parents and teachers (Azize, Humphrey, Cattani, 2011). In the words of Maternal and Child Health Bureau, “Children with Special Health Care Needs are those who have or are at increased risk for chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, and emotional conditions and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally”(McPherson, Arango, Fox, McManus, Newachek, Perrin, Shonkoff, & Strickland, 1998). There has been found variation in chronic stability and predictability (Brown, Daly,& Rickel,2007). Thus, child with chronic illness of lesser predictability, such as asthma, epilepsy, and diabetes leads to lesser degree of stability in comparison to the arthritis that has higher level of stability in the child’s and his family’s life. Family and parental influences on the school functioning of a chronic child has been widely explored.

KEYWORDS: *Child Health Bureau, Chronic Child, Developmental, Behavioral, and Emotional Conditions*

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