

Quality of life of children suffering from motor disabilities as evaluated by their parents

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: We assessed the quality of life of children with motor disabilities in comparison with healthy children, as evaluated by their parents, using the CHQ-PF28 questionnaire (*Child Health Questionnaire—Parent Form*).

Materials and methods: In a prospective study, we evaluated the quality of life of 105 children with motor disabilities.

Results: Our research showed lower quality of life in the group of children with motor disabilities compared with controls, both in terms of physical and psychosocial health. Significant correlations between independent walking and physical functioning, general behavior, and mental health of children suffering from motor disabilities were found. According to the average

indices of quality of life of children suffering from motor disabilities, depending on sex, the greatest differences occurred in behavior and change of health status, while the smallest differences in self-esteem and parental involvement, compared with controls. In the case of healthy children, the largest differences appeared in the perception of pain, behavior, and self-esteem; whereas, the smallest variations occurred in the change of health status and physical activity.

Conclusion: Children suffering from motor disabilities demonstrate lower quality of life compared with healthy children.

Keywords: Quality of life; motor disability; children; parents

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