

**CRONIC SORROW OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DIFFICULTIES,
USERS OF THE ZLATNI CEKIN POLYCLINIC AND CEKIN NURSERY**

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Abstract

Introduction: Chronic sadness is the presence of recurrent intense sensations in the lives of parents or guardians with children who have chronic health conditions. Once the child who have chronic health condition is born, parents are confronted with childrens needs and challenges and need to adapt to a new life circumstances. Relationships with larger circle of family members, neighbours, friends and attitudes towards the illness of everyone around them as well as a quality of communication with health workers and availability of informations should be the source of emotional and instrumental support. Diagnosis of the child developmental delays is the reason for parents sorrow. That feeling is similar to the feeling experienced by people who lost by death someone dear to them. The child is not physically lost, but parents grieve because their hopes were to give a birth to a healthy child.

Aim: To examine the presence and influence of chronic sadness of the quality of life among parents of children who are chronically ill. To determine its existence and triggers. To examine the differences with regard to the diagnosis and time span of the situation/loss that the parents have to deal with, and to examine the internal and external mood management mechanisms that are connected to the assistance of medical professionals, family and friends.

Methods: Parents of children with developmental disabilities, clients of the Zlatni cekin polyclinic and the Cekin kindergarten (115 parents).

Results: Regardless of their child's diagnosis and the time span of the situation/loss they are dealing with, parents of children with developmental disabilities have their ups and downs. They feel and believe that the situation/loss will affect them for the rest of their lives. The majority of participants have experienced some changes as a result of the situation/loss (89,1%) and think about the difference it has made (84,7%). They mostly feel worried (97,3%) and then sad (96,5%), and they also mention fear and a feeling of impotence. Adopting the 'I can do it' attitude helps them in dealing with their emotions, and taking up a hobby and talking to a priest or a rabbi are the least helpful options. Adopting an attitude is significantly less helpful among parents of autistic children than it is among parents of children with intellectual difficulties and at-risk children. Medical professionals can help by allowing the parents to ask questions, by providing good care and giving honest answers. Family and friends can help by having a positive attitude, by listening to them, and by not feeling sorry for them. Most of the participants are female (86,1%), married and of average financial status.

Conclusion: Chronic sadness is stable regardless of the diagnosis and time span of the situation/loss. It has its characteristics and triggers. Internal and external mechanisms help the parents in dealing with their emotions.

Keywords: children with developmental disabilities, family, chronic sadness

**STAVOVI RODITELJA O CIJEPLJENJU DJECE NA PODRUČJU POŽEGE U ODNOSU NA
ZDRAVSTVENU PISMENOST**

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Sažetak

Uvod: Cijepljenje je najveći medicinski uspjeh 20. stoljeća i cijepljenjem je spašeno više života nego bilo kojom drugom medicinskom intervencijom u povijesti. Posljednjih godina dolazi do smanjenja cijepnih obuhvata, zbog odbijanja ili odgađanja cijepljenja od strane roditelja, pa se povećava rizik od ponovne pojave bolesti koje su bile u fazi eliminacije

Cilj: Cilj istraživanja je ispitati stavove roditelja djece predškolske dobi o cijepljenju, ispitati njihovu zdravstvenu

pismenost, te povezanost između zdravstvene pismenosti roditelja i njihovih stavova o cijepljenju.

Metode: Istraživanje se provodilo u populaciji roditelja djece predškolske dobi. U istraživanje je uključeno 120 ispitanika. Za istraživanje je korišten anketni upitnik koji sadržava demografske podatke i pitanja o stavovima prema cijepljenju te upitnik za procjenu zdravstvene pismenosti Short Assessment of Health Literacy for Spanish Adults (SAHLSA-50) u hrvatskom prijevodu. Za obradu dobivenih podataka korišten je statistički paket IBM SPSS. Korišteni su deskriptivni podatci za kontinuirane varijable: aritmetička sredina (M), standardna devijacija (SD) te raspon, a za kategorijalne je prikazan broj ispitanika.

Rezultati: Istraživanje je pokazalo da većina ispitanika ispunjava zakonsku obvezu cijepljenja (95.8%) i smatra da cijepljenje treba biti obavezno (88.3%). Najveći je izvor zabrinutosti oko cijepljenja, strah od nuspojava, čega se boji skoro svaki drugi ispitanik. Rezultati pokazuju da većina demografskih i socioekonomskih čimbenika ne utječe na stavove o cijepljenju. Kod ispitivanja razlika s obzirom na stupanj obrazovanja dobivena je značajna razlika u razinama zdravstvene pismenosti. Ispitanici s višim i visokim obrazovanjem imaju izraženiju zdravstvenu pismenost ($p < 0.01$). Istraživanjem nije dobivena povezanost zdravstvene pismenosti i stavova o cijepljenju.

Zaključak: Ovo je istraživanje pokazalo da većina ispitanika ima pozitivne stavove o cijepljenju, te ima izraženu zdravstvenu pismenost. Većina demografskih i socioekonomskih čimbenika ne utječe na stavove o cijepljenju.

Ključne riječi: cijepljenje, djeca, stavovi roditelja, zdravstvena pismenost

PARENTS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS VACCINATION OF CHILDREN IN POŽEGA AREA IN RELATION TO HEALTH LITERACY

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Abstract

Introduction: Vaccination is the greatest medical success of the 20th century. In the last few years there has been a decrease in grain coverage, because of the rejection or delay of vaccination by parents, so it increases the risk of re-emergence of the disease that was in the phase of elimination.

Aim: To examine the attitudes of pre-school age children's parents towards vaccination, examine their health literacy, and the link between parents' health literacy and their attitudes towards vaccination.

Methods: The research was conducted in the population of parents of preschool children. The study involved 120 respondents. A survey questionnaire containing the demographic data and questions about attitudes towards vaccination and a questionnaire for assessing health literacy was used for the study, Short Assessment of Health Literacy for Spanish Adults

(SAHLSA-50) in Croatian. The statistical package IBM SPSS 23 was used to analyse the data. The descriptive data used for the continuous variables are the arithmetic mean (M), the standard deviation (SD) and the range, and the number of subjects was categorically displayed.

Results: The research has shown that most respondents meet the legal obligation to vaccinate (95.8%) and consider that vaccination should be mandatory (88.3%). The biggest source of vaccine concerns is the fear of side effects which almost every other responder fears. The results show that most demographic and socioeconomic factors do not affect attitudes about vaccination. When examining the differences in the level of education, there was a significant difference in the levels of health literacy. Pupils with college and university degree have more pronounced health literacy ($p < 0.01$). The research did not provide a link between medical literacy and attitudes towards vaccination.

Conclusions: This research has shown that most respondents have positive attitudes towards vaccination, and have a pronounced health literacy. Most demographic and socioeconomic factors do not affect attitudes about vaccination.

Keywords: vaccination, children, parental attitudes, health literacy