

The impact of parental expectations with a hemophiliac child undergoing treatment

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Introduction and Objectives:

The parents are a child's reference, interpreters and mediators between him and the world. For this reason, when a hemophiliac child has to receive factor treatment, the parental expectations have a significant importance in terms of the subjective position of the child, which can lead to the rejection of the treatment. As a consequence, it is necessary to design attention programs which embrace the parents and help them to recognise and subjectively elaborate these expectations.

Materials and Methods:

the Psychological Service disposes of diverse programs designed to attend and accompany the families whose children start a treatment process, such as parents' groups and follow up family interviews which are included in the early detection programs and psychological check ups.

Results:

In the last five years 54 families in the parents' groups and 23 families in the early detection program have been attended, as well as psychological check ups. It has been confirmed that a part of the parents' expectations concerning the treatment are unconscious, interfering with the treatment and generating parental and child discomfort. The expectations of each parent are quite singular and if they are unconscious, they haven't been discussed either. In the groups and the attention programs the parents are invited to speak with professional assessment, which enables them to realise each others unconscious elements which cause discomfort, helping them to deal with and process these expectations in a different way. Consequently, the parents obtain a better way of accompanying their child throughout the treatment process, which usually eliminates any kind of rejection.

