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Introduction and objectives

Although we have provided care to our patients, I noted that most bleeds happens at school and this prompted me to do school visits.

School visits helps to improve care of hemophilia children attending school through providing knowledge to teachers, students, staff, provide school types of plays, help in diagnosing others, to help teachers understand why students need to be allowed for hospital check ups and treatment and make students comfortable.

Methods

Patients were noted to have frequent bleeds at schools and had delay in seeking care reasons being lack of knowledge. This prompted me to do school visits, fifteen schools were picked out of 60 schools and visits done one school at interval of one month. A team composed of nurse, doctor and physiotherapists school request to allow one hour of their break presentation was given to teachers and other staffs, surprisingly out of school visited nobody had an idea about hemophilia.

They thought; students were pretending, it was caused by some food, it was a curse, witchcraft, thought parents were giving attention to children, teachers denied some of the students play completely and created chairs for them to sit on at break. Others demanded the students to play contact activities, others thought they should have special schools, other students were given names like limber, took care givers as disturbing as they take children to the hospital frequently.

School visits has helped since bleed reduced; teachers and school staff provided care, first aid at school and calling the hospital for consultation and referring students to hospital immediately. Parents and students are comfortable when communicating to school staff about bleeds; they have referred others for diagnosis, even extended knowledge to the community.

Results and Conclusion

School visits should be given priority in management of hemophilia in Kenya as it helps improve care. Lack of knowledge at schools has contributed to many bleeds and frequent hospital visits and use of factor concentrate which sometimes not available.

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