



QUESTIONNAIRES FOR ASSESSING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF CHILDREN AFTER COCHLEAR IMPLANTATION

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Background

Cochlear implantation (CI) was implemented in Central Asia in early 2000. In the Republic of Kazakhstan for the first time cochlear implantation was performed in 2007. The data on the use of the HRQoL of children after cochlear implantation in this region is scarce. Due to the lack of information about health-related quality of life of implanted children in mentioned region, we conducted the study to choose reliable and universal questionnaire.

Objective

The main objective of the study was to describe questionnaires used to assess the quality of life of the children after cochlear implantation considering age, hearing skills, schooling, ability to speak, cognitive and psychological factors.

Methodology

Computer-assisted literature searching was conducted in several databases (Medline, Scopus) to identify articles related to questionnaires for parents or caregivers of children after cochlear implantation. We also obtained relevant statistical information from the WHO database. The search was performed using the following keywords: children, cochlear implantation, questionnaire. After screening 119 relevant paper, 12 most common questionnaires, which are focused on quality of life of children after cochlear implantation, were selected.



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Results

In most cases there are used questionnaires with fewer questions. However, the crucial drawback of these questionnaires is either a small number of questions in each aspect, or only one aspect is considered. Of all the questionnaires, considering all aspects of the life of the family and the child who underwent cochlear implantation, is the Children with Cochlear Implants: Parent's Perspectives (CCIPP). The only drawback of which is the number of questions (74 questions).

Conclusions

Each of these questionnaires is unique in its own way for individual types of studies regarding children after cochlear implantation. It is not possible to judge their effectiveness in connection with different conditions. Further research is needed to develop a universal questionnaire covering all aspects related to assess the quality of life of the children after cochlear implantation.

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*Above mentioned sources are the main in our study, however other references were also used.