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LIFE HABITS IN CHILDREN WITH CEREBRAL PALSY

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Objective: Since according to the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) participation is the ultimate outcome for individuals with disabling conditions, children with cerebral palsy are at risk of reduced participation in everyday activities. Purpose of this study is review of life habits according ICF in children with cerebral palsy.

Materials & Methods: In this cross sectional study 53 children with cerebral palsy (5-13 years old) from rehabilitation centers were selected via the non-probability convenience sampling. The quality of accomplishment of life habits and the overall satisfaction with performance were assessed via Life-H Questionnaire through interviews with parents. Life habits divided into 12 categories. The categories are nutrition, fitness, personal care, communication, housing and mobility refers to daily activities; the categories responsibilities, interpersonal relationships, community life, education, employment and recreation address social roles.

Results: The main effect of gender was not statistically significant in any of the variables of life habits. Significant differences were found between gross motor function classification system (GMFCS) and global score of series of life habits and most of life habits' variables except work and community life. There were significant differences between global score manual ability classification system (MACS) and most of variables of the Life-H test except interpersonal relationships, community life, and work. The relevance between satisfaction with performance and accomplishment of life habits was significant.

Conclusion: There was not significant relevance between gender and accomplishment of life habits but GMFCS and MACS levels had significant relevance with accomplishment of life habits.

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