

Attitude and Opinion Towards Pediatric Physical Therapy Among Parents of Children with Disability

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Evaluation and rehabilitation of problems in infants through adolescents are the focus of pediatric physical therapy. In addition to helping parents adequately prepare their kids for successful participation in their social environment and everyday activities. Parents need to receive knowledge regarding their child's daily care. For their child's therapeutic and supporting role in managing the disability requires positive and balanced interaction between parents and physical therapists.

Aim: This study aimed to know the attitude and opinion toward pediatric physiotherapy among parents of children with disability

Methodology: An observational study was conducted in Ahmedabad city. 51 parents of children with disability participated in this study. Parents completed a 27-item questionnaire of the Parents' Attitude and Opinion Questionnaire.

Result: The result was carried out by using Microsoft Excel version 2016. Out of 51 sample sizes, 77% of parents had shown a positive attitude toward pediatric physical therapy, and 80% of parents believed that pediatric physical therapy helps improve their child's functionality.

Conclusion: The attitude towards pediatric physical therapy was moderately positive among parents of children with disability. They have positive opinions and are aware of the therapeutic effects of pediatric physical therapy for their children

Keywords: Attitude, Opinion, pediatric, physical therapy

INTRODUCTION

Evaluation and rehabilitation of problems in infants through adolescents are the focus of pediatric physical therapy. In addition to helping parents adequately prepare their kids for successful participation in their social environment and everyday activities^[1]. Parents need to receive knowledge regarding their child's daily care. For their child's therapeutic and supporting role in managing the disability requires positive and balanced interaction between parents and physical therapists^[1].

The primary roles of the physiotherapists are to instruct and supervise the parents in the daily physical treatment regimen. The instruction is given when the family visits the rehabilitation units, or by regular visits to the child's home^[2]. A high degree of parental responsibility for the daily training program seems advantageous to the parents and for family stability^[2].

Childhood impairment and parental views in an ecological framework: It is suggested that parental beliefs are a way in which culture influences child development

through a discussion of research on parents' opinions about the nature and causes of juvenile impairment as well as their ideas about treatment among different cultural groups^[3].

A child's development is structured and contextualized by the parents' views toward childhood disabilities. Parents' views toward treatment and intervention are also contextualized by their views regarding the nature and causes of disability^[3].

Evidence about attitudes, expectations, and issues with the at-home programs that parents are requested to carry out with their kids by physiotherapists is needed.^[2] Numerous research has demonstrated the beneficial impacts of adherence on functional outcomes and the likelihood of low levels of adherence in children with disabilities. This issue is particularly pertinent to kids who have chronic illnesses. The estimates of the number of parents who do prescribed exercises with their children vary, averaging about 50 percent, depending on the definition and evaluation of adherence^[4].

MATERIALS & METHODS

51 parents were contacted and a Self-Formulated Questionnaire was sent. Information was gathered from fifty-one Gujarati parents in Ahmedabad. This study used cross-sectional observational research with snowball sampling. A Google Form

was made and used to administer a survey. A range of pediatric physical therapy clinics were involved in this study.

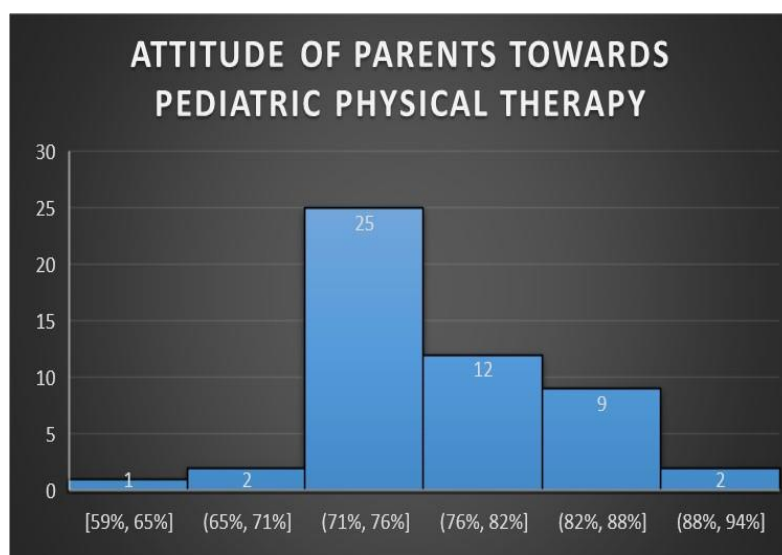
On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = Strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Undecided 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly agree), Parents completed 27 –an item questionnaire of the Parents' Attitude and Opinion Questionnaire in which statements describe approaches and expectations about the experience of getting physical therapy for their child's disability and participation as a parent. Considering each thing in the context of therapy the child was getting.

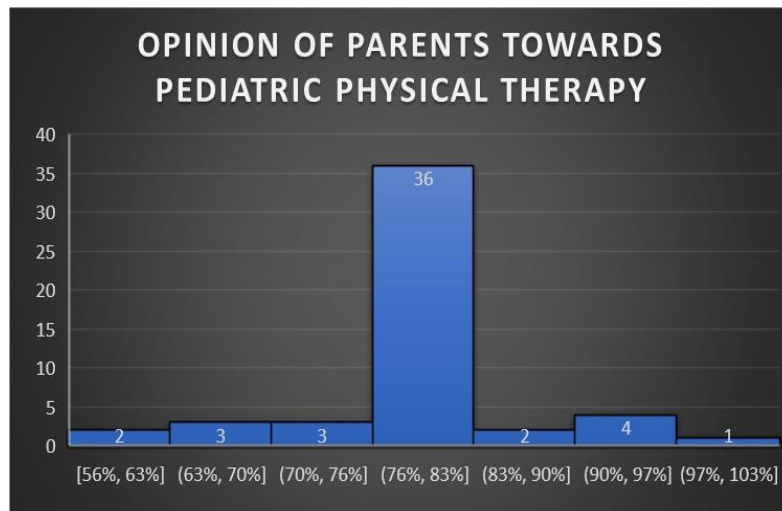
For the primary analysis, the 27 elements were converted to a 5-point accuracy scale. The possible score range was from 27 to 135. The more active participation and interest are indicated by higher scores on the scale. The purpose of the scale is to measure parental responsibility and their expectation from physical therapy for their child's disability.

RESULT

The result was carried out by using Microsoft Excel version 2016.

Out of 51 samples, 77% of parents have shown a positive attitude towards pediatric physical therapy, and 80% of parents have shown their good opinion that pediatric physical therapy helps improve their child's functionality





DISCUSSION

This study shows a positive attitude and a good opinion toward pediatric physical therapy for their children's disability. In this study, we needed productive and active participation in physical therapy and learning the home protocol for their home exercise which has a significant amount of involvement in their child's functionality and betterment.

In the study, we also discover the expectations and opinions of the parents from physical therapy and other therapy (play, music, etc.) for their child's functionality and independence.

Marianna Stavropoulou et al (2020) conducted a study that concluded that Many researchers enjoy the physiotherapy process and actively participate in its implementation among parents/guardians of children with motor impairments who follow a physiotherapeutic intervention program, as they are urged to do by the physiotherapist. The sole negative response pertains to the topic of whether physical treatment aids in enhancing a child's functionality and making their daily life easier; this may be because the issue is so severe. The remainder, by far, respond favorably and acknowledge the benefits of physical treatment.

Lennart von Wendt et al (1984) conducted a study and concluded, that this limited study seems to support the suggestion that a high degree of parental involvement in the daily

training of their handicapped children is compatible with intensive training. Few parents reported difficulties in performing the treatments, which seems to speak for good adjustment of most families to their role.

Elfreda Marshall et al (1981) conducted a study and concluded that the study has particular implications for physiotherapists working in this field. Despite a current upsurge in programs that propose rigid implementation several times per day, the mothers in the present sample did not feel a rigid schedule was very important. When working with mothers who are keen to gain information about their child's condition, who regard home programs as substantially valuable, and who are not only prepared to devote 2 hours each day to working with their child, but who seem to have a remarkable tenacity to maintain this commitment for a long period, it is the responsibility of the physiotherapist to see that the mother's efforts are well directed and enthusiasm utilized. If the mother wishes to participate, she must not only know what is expected of her, but feel confident and competent so that she and the child will gain a sense of achievement, and with this an enjoyable experience.

CONCLUSION

The attitude towards pediatric physical therapy was moderately positive among parents of children with disability. They

have productive opinions and are aware of the positive effects of pediatric physical therapy.

Interventions like awareness of antenatal health and complications during pregnancy, leading to pediatric disorders that lead to disabilities can be carried out. Neonatal disability awareness programs. Parents should be aware of genetic counseling and diagnosis. Parents' counseling for the intervention and their active participation are really helpful.

Declaration by Authors

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