

Introduction

Chronic health conditions among

children

It has become a commonplace to claim that disability and chronic health conditions is on the rise in the modern world. Such recognition arrives as we and our families age and modern medicine ensures the viability of children who, only a few decades ago, would not have lived into adulthood (**Albrecht et al, 2006**).

Studding of the chronic health conditions problem among school children and its impact on their achievement is an important issue, as childhood disability is now known to be a major public health problem throughout the world (**Julise et al, 1983**).

In the later 20th century, with improved control of infectious diseases (including elimination of polio) through both prevention and treatment , pediatric medicine in industrialized nation turned its attention to broad spectrum of conditions. These included both potentially lethal, and temporarily or permanently handicapping condition (**Stanton and Behrman; 2008**) .

To enhance the societal participation of these children as they approach

adulthood and to be able to plan for sufficient and adequate facilities, policy makers and politicians need to rely on valid prevalence data. Such prevalence data on chronic conditions in children and young adults are not only useful for planning for health care and provisions for the welfare of young adults with chronic conditions, they can also be considered, in addition to mortality statistics, as an outcome measure in comparisons of determinants of youth health between countries and over time (**Johanna, 2007**).

In the history the dealing with this group of people had changed from nation to nation, and from society to another. In the past, Avllaton dismissed them from his utopia because they don't do their duties (**Matter, 1994**).

All the religion paid a great attention to those for example, we found great personnel in the Islamic history from the disabled like Amer Ben El-gamoooh (had a limping gait). Taha Hussein also was one of the corner stones of the Arabian literature although he was a blind (**Khalid; 1994- Ezzat, 2002**).

Beethoven although he was a deaf, he was one of the great composure in the 20th century, Franklin Roosevelt the president of United State Of America (1933 – 1945) although he was chronically diseased (had paralytic polio mylities), he left a great prints in the present history of USA, this force the government of USA to put his face in mountain Rushmore, which is a well known monument in the Black Hills in South Dakota (**Edward, 2003 - Perry et al, 1996**).

Children are now recognized as having their own human rights. These are laid down in the United Nations convention on the Rights of the Children, which

has been ratified by all members of the United Nations. Implications of the convention include taking an active role in their communities and nations (**United Nation Convention on child's rights ; 1989**).

The International Year of the Child and the subsequent International Year of the Disabled have occasioned a sustained look at what is being done by health officials to reduce childhood suffering around the world. Sadly, in most countries such efforts remain largely inadequate (**burke, 2004**).

Boekaerts and Roder (1999) defined chronic health conditions as condition that affect children for extended periods, often for life and can be managed but cannot be cured.

Silver et al (1999) defined chronic health conditions as a physical, usually nonfatal condition that has lasted longer than 3 months in a given year or necessitated a period of continuous hospitalization of more than 1 month, of sufficient severity to interfere with the child's ordinary activities to some degree.

Stein et al (1999) and Kuhlthau et al (2003) defined chronic health conditions as condition must have a biological, psychological or cognitive basis; have lasted or are virtually certain to last for 1 year and produce more than one of the following (1)-limitation of function, activity, or social role in comparison with health age peers in general areas of physical, cognitive, emotional and social growth and development; (2)-dependency on 1 of the following to compensate for or minimize limitation of function, activity or social role; medications, special diets, medical technology, assistive device, or personal assistance; and (3)-need for

medical care or related services or psychological services above the usual for the child's age or for special ongoing treatments, interventions or accommodations at home or school.

Dosa et al (2001) defined chronic health conditions as children who have or at Increased risk of physical, developmental behavior or emotional condition and who also require health care and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by the children generally.

Feudtner et al (2000) defined chronic health conditions as any medical condition that can be reasonably expected to last more than 12 months and to involve either several organ systems or 1 organ system severely enough to require especially pediatric care and probably some period of hospitalization in the tertiary care center.

Lissauer and Clayden stated that the impairment means loss or abnormality of physiological function or anatomical structure, Disability denotes any restriction or lack of ability due to the impairment while Handicapping means disadvantage from a disability which limits or prevents fulfillment of role of the organ affected (**Lissauer and Clayden ; 2007**) .

After this introduction we must refer to **Buscaglia** important Words "We have to remember that persons with disability and chronic conditions are persons first. These persons have the same right to self actualization as any others: at their own rate,

in their own way, and by means of their own tools. Only they can suffer their nonbeing or find their selves." (**Buscaglia; 1983**).