

SUMMARY

Speech impairment was defined as a difficulty in transmitting the speech message from the brain to mouth its an impairment of the voice, articulation of sounds and fluency , which affect a persons ability to communicate. The child with speech impairment has some behavioral difficulties as frustration, inability to form relationships with other children, difficulties in adapting in a structure school routine, badly legible hand writing, immature drawing, and copying skills. Most common behavioral adjustment of parents is anxiety for their children with speech impairment's future, give them more care than other siblings. The nurse as a member of speech impairment children care team play a vital role in primary prevention of developmental disabilities through health education, assessment, screening programs and implement intervention strategies to assist children and their parent to communicate.

The aim of the present study was to identify parents' adjustment about health problems and needs of children with speech impairment .To fulfill the aim of the present study; **the following research questions were formulated:**

- 1- What are the health problems among children with speech impairment?
- 2- What are the health needs of children with speech impairment from the parents' points of view?
- 3- What are the correlation between parents' adjustments and health problems of their children with speech impairment?
- 4- Is there a relation between socio demographic of parents and their adjustment?

Setting:

This descriptive study was carried out in phonetic outpatient clinic of Benha Teaching Hospital in Benha city, at Qaliubiya Governorate. That this place is including large attendance number of children with speech impairment and their parents

Sampling:

It consisted of subjects included a convenient sample chosen All children who attended the phonetic outpatient clinic during the period from April 2011 to September 2011, they were (200child) .They chosen under these criteria: Preschool and school children from age 5-10 years and diagnosed with speech impairment and attending with their parents.

Tools of data collection:***Three tools were used for data collection:***

- **The first tool: An interviewing questionnaire:** consisted of four parts:
 - **First part:** socio-demographic characteristics of the children and parents: consisted of (age sex, level of education, income, consanguinity, occupation, marital status, etc)
 - Second part:** included questionnaire to assess past health history of the children with speech impairment.
 - Third part:** included questionnaire to assess health problems that affect children with speech impairment, such as psychological problems, social problems, and educational problems
 - Fourth part:** it included assessment children needs such as physical needs, social needs and psychological need from parents' point of view.
- **Fifth part:** included questionnaire to assess parents' adjustment as nature of parents' relation ship, social development and patterns of social adjustment.

- **The second tool:** Included questionnaire to assess child diagnosis, investigation (Hearing & IQ test) and treatment

Physical assessment included any deformities or anomalies of nose, throat, mouth, lip and teeth and tongue movements

The current study revealed the following results:-

- Children with speech impairment mean age was (6.43 ± 1.522), (64%) of them were males, (60%) of them their arrangement between siblings were 3rd-4th, (45%) of them were nursery class level, (48%) were from big family i.e.5 and more and (69%) of them their income were enough.
- Regarding marital statuses of parents (87 %) were married, (41%) fathers aged from 30-40 years old while (52 %) of mothers aged From 20-30 years, (58 %) of fathers, (55%) of mothers were high education (56 %) of fathers were employees and (41%) of mothers were housewives, and (58 %) were not relative.
- Regarding medical history of children with speech impairment, (78%)of them had delayed language development (DLD) with associated disease ,(32%)of them were mental retardation ,(43%) of them were dull ness (70-90),(82%) of them were normal hearing test and (100%) all of them were treating in speaking section.
- Regarding physical assessment of children with speech impairment, (83%) no control of lip movement.
- Regarding prenatal history of children with speech impairment. (84%) had normal gestational period,(35%)of them had toxemia (32%)of mothers sense of frustration and despair during pregnancy and (50%)of them were premature rupture of membrane related to infection

- Regarding natal history of children with speech impairment, (48%) of them had asphyxia of the child and (33%) of them asphyxia during birth and oxygen deficiency
- Regarding post natal history of children with speech impairment, (50%) of them had recurrent otitis media.
- Regarding psychological problems of children with speech impairment, (47%) of them were hyperactivity, (44%) of them were nervousness and (18%) of them had anxious.
- Regarding social problems of children with speech impairment, (31%) of them were stuporiness, and unable to cooperative, and (27%) of them were aggressive.
- Regarding learning problems of children with speech impairment, (65%) of them were regular going to school, (49%) of them were read difficulty, (43%) of the write difficulty, and (48%) drawing unclear picture.
- Regarding physical need, (68%) dependent on mother were full path, (63%) of them partial path, (62%) of them washing hands with soap & water after using the toilet, (78%) of them eating sandwiches and (67%) of them the child needs to the mother to be with him during sleep.
- On the other hand, semi dependent in physical need (43%) of them wash hands with soap and water before eating, (28%) of them eating lunch meal and dinner meal and (21%) of them the child needs to hear story before rest. While independent (32%) of them wash hands with soap and water before eating, (11%) of them eating break fast and (30%) of them the child need to sleep alone.
- Regarding the social needs (60%) of them tending to be isolated.

- Regarding the psychological needs of the child (20%) had usually about reward for good things that he done. while (52%) had some time about modify unhealthy behavior of the child and (84 %) were rarely about satisfy with love and compassion.
- Regarding needs of the child in the state of fear (68 %) were rarely related to praise any success achieved to overcome his fear. While (50 %) were some time related to deal with familiar objects and (64 %) were usually related to express charges coloring, games and dolls that represent.
- Regarding needs of child in case of aggression against others, it showed that (48 %) were rarely related to find out what types of events and circumstances that make him behave rudely. While (43 %) were some times related to take care about his behaviors and (36 %) were usually related to take care about his behaviors
- Regarding needs of child who suffers Jealousy the studied sample shows that (77%) were rarely related to get the love and care from parents. While (38 %) were some time related to teach to cope with situation and (22 %) were usually about teach the child how to cope with situation.
- Regarding need of child who suffers from thumb sucking the studied sample shows that (79 %) were rarely related to satisfy the needs, the attention and sponsorship. While (42 %) were sometime related to involve with his colleagues in the play and (44 %) were usually related to direct the energy and his activates.
- Regarding the most effective way to modify the behavior of the child in correct, the studied sample shows that (82 %) were rarely related to clarify the mistakes .While (44 %) were sometime related to harm the

child and (30 %) were usually related to isolate the child in a place alone for certain time.

- Regarding nature of parents relation ship of children with speech impairment, (82%) of parents strong agree to do their best to keep their children with speech impairment in good condition, and (78%) of them had parents' dealing differently with speech impairment child .
- Regarding social development of children with speech impairment, (94 %) of them were strong agree related to parents' encourage their child with speech impairment gain self-confidence and (63%) of them that family members are helping to meet his requests and care to the child with speech impairment.
- Regarding patterns of social adjustment of children with speech impairment, (82 %) were strong agree related to what happened to my child with speech impairment is normal as many children, and (78%) of them had interested the future of child.
- there was a statistically positive significant correlation between social problems and nature of parent's relationship.
- There was a statistically significant relation between patterns of social adjustment and father educational level ($p < 0.05$).
- There was a statistically significant relation between nature of parents relationship and mother educational level ($p < 0.05$).

Based on the results of the present study, and research questions, the following can be recommending:-

- Early detection of children through: development of IQ and hearing test.
- Increase specialized phonetic health center in all districts to be more



accessible.

- Continuous follow up for these children through activities and school health social services.
- Parents of children with speech impairment should be in close contact with schools of their children through regular meetings.
- Increase community awareness about the rights of children with speech impairment and their needs for care and supports through the media.