

Health-Related Quality of Life and Related Factors in Children and Adolescents with Epilepsy in Iran

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The effects of epilepsy may disturb the ability of the child and family to function and has detrimental effects on health-related quality of life (HRQOL). We determined HRQOL and related factors in children and adolescents with epilepsy in Iran. This cross-sectional study was performed in a private neurology pediatric clinic in Guilan Province (North of Iran). We evaluated 108 children and adolescents with epilepsy. Data were collected by interview with parents and review of medical records. Generic and specific HRQOL was evaluated by Child Health Questionnaire and QOL in Childhood Epilepsy Questionnaire, respectively. The mean of overall generic HRQOL score was 71.05 ± 11.31 . The lowest score was related to parental impact: emotional (52.59 ± 15.49). The average total specific HRQOL score was 71.95 ± 11.16 . The lowest score dedicated to general health (51.21 ± 18.25). In multivariate regression analysis, duration of epilepsy ($p < .016$) was independently associated with generic HRQOL scores. Variables were independently associated with specific HRQOL scores including gender ($p < .003$), duration of epilepsy ($p < .011$), and family history of epilepsy ($p < .005$). We found that epilepsy duration was the strongest predictor of both generic and specific HRQOL in children and adolescents with epilepsy. This will be useful for clinicians in epilepsy management, which will enhance HRQOL.