

Lesão Cerebral na população pediátrica. Que inclusão social?

Traumatic brain injury in pediatric population - Which social inclusion?

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Introduction

Traumatic brain injuries (TBI) are a very important cause of children morbidity and disability, with a negative impact on their life quality. Outcomes vary with the severity of injury, child age at injury, premorbid child characteristics, family factors and the families' socioeconomic status.

Aim

To evaluate the social inclusion of children following a traumatic brain injury after hospital discharge.

Patients and Methods

The authors made a retrospective study of the inpatients of a specific unit of the Pediatric Development and Rehabilitation Service, dedicated to the care of children that, at admission, were in coma or in a minimal responsive state. Medical records were reviewed corresponding to children admitted to this unit between 1996 and 2007 and their social inclusion was evaluated.

Conclusion

Children following traumatic brain injuries face serious difficulties when they return to their familiar environment in terms of skills, behaviour, communication and education. They could also be a physical, emotional and financial burden to their families and society. Prevention measures and oriented rehabilitation programs are essential to assure a better outcome for children with TBI.

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Referências / References:

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