

"NEGATIVE FEELINGS AND EMOTIONAL ADJUSTMENT OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AFFECTED BY CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE"

In collaboration with: Complutense University of Madrid





N DE AYUDA A LOS NIÑOS CON PROBLEMAS DE CORAZÓN

Quantitative research

"Negative feelings and emotional adjustment of families with children affected by congenital heart disease"

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<u>Three scales in diagnosis, hospitalization and return</u> <u>home. Aspects studies:</u> Feelings, Thoughts, Conduct, Useful conduct, Information resources and Useful resources. **N: 347**



RESULTS (Hungary 2011) Quantitative research

- 1. Intensity of negative feelings similar in diagnosis and hospitalization.
- 2. Diagnosis stage: coping strategies are oriented to manage emerging emotions.
- 3. Hospitalization stage: coping strategies focus on how to manage the problem.
- 4. Return home stage: negative feelings are less intense. Fear and anguish continue.
- 5. Return home stage: the parents say they don't feel support when adaptating at home.

No significant values in peer-to-peer support in D. and H periods...



Qualitative research: Theoritical Context

Purpose the research:

- •To deeply study the return home time.
- •To offer support groups to parents.

Previous studies have shown:

- Positive influence of social support on health issues and on online support group.
- Contradictory results from online groups on depression and distress.



Qualitative research: Methodology

1. INTERVIEWS:

- a. With a variety of eight people
- b. Asked about subjects of interest for families in the return home period.
- 1. TWO GROUPS LED BY PSYCHOLOGISTS:
 - a. One with 5 mothers and another with 5 fathers.b. The leading question: do you think an online parent-to-parent group will help you to cope with the return home difficulties?

Qualitative research: Preliminary results from Mothers Focus group

- 1. A positive reaction to participation in online peersupport, if it would help with emotional release. ("They know that others understand what they are going through")
- 2. A negative reaction to possible distortion was pseudomedical consultations ("there are mothers who seem to know more than the cardiologist knows").
- 3. The response was unclear on the subject if to participe in the online group could increase rather than decrease negative feelings. ("I quit a heart disease group because it was so depressing").



New element: "Pilot e-learning project"

MOODLE PILOT COURSE:

• Lasting three months

• 12 fathers and mothers, members of Menudos Corazones.

• Is online parent-to-parent support a more effective strategy for coping with distress if placed within a semi-structured learning experience?



THANK YOU VERY MUCH

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