



KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICES OF PEDIATRIC RESIDENTS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A HOSPITAL-BASED EARLY LITERACY PROGRAM IN PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER

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BACKGROUND

Reach Out and Read is a program that promotes early literacy and school readiness by engaging the children as early as six months of age, and their family to read aloud as a daily learning activity. Pediatricians are the main key player hence they need to be trained and knows how to communicate its importance to the child and their family to promote positive brain development.

OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the knowledge, attitude and practices of pediatric residents in the implementation of a Hospital Based Early Literacy Program in a tertiary medical center for children, using a validated medical providers survey.

METHODS

All 60 residents from levels I to III of administrative year 2019 accomplished an 11-item validated medical providers questionnaire. Data were collected and analyzed using frequency and percentage distribution.

RESULTS

Table 1: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of the Results Acquired from the Medical Providers Survey

Medical Providers Survey	Participants' Answers	Out of 60 participants
Type of Training	Conference or Workshop	31 (52%)
Regularity of Program Offered to Trainees	Once per year	31 (52%)
Accessibility of books	Always	31 (52%)
Age-Appropriate Books	Usually	29 (48%)
Culturally-Appropriate Books	Usually	24 (40%)
Availability of Adult literacy resource or referral information	Sometimes	24 (40%)
Percentage of providers participating in ROR in clinic offer books and guidance in accordance with the ROR model	25%	21 (35%)
	50%	21 (35%)
Percentage of health supervision visits are the participants able to give literacy guidance and books	40%	19 (31.66)
	60%	19 (31.66)
Point during the health supervision visit do the participants usually give the book to the child	End	40 (66.66)
Regularity on the use of book as a tool aid in the developmental assessment of the child	Sometimes	29 (48.33)
Percentage of the participant's perspective as to the effectiveness of literacy guidance in changing parent behavior	60%	21 (35)

CONCLUSION

Pediatric residents are well aware of the existence of the program but the attitude towards its implementation and use was not justified hence its low utilization during health supervision visit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Improvements in the program such as more comprehensive training of residents and yearly post evaluation need to be instituted to encourage pediatric residents to regularly practice and maximize early literacy promotion during the health supervision visits of children.