



Expanding the Horizon of Pediatric Research

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Millions of children and teenagers around the world are vulnerable to many types of social, economic and environmental risks and hazards. Research in health and mental health has been addressing many problems and concerns that are produced by stressful life events such as poverty, homelessness, child labor, children marriage, sexual trafficking and domestic abuse. In many areas in the world, babies and children accompany their parents in forced evacuation spending time in roads or live for extended times in refugee camps. By expanding the views and integrating stressful life events which represent the hidden causes of disease and disorder, the need for new effective intervention modalities become obvious. Medical service, in general and pediatric care in particular became interdisciplinary fields benefiting from the knowledge and practice of variety of professions, i.e. public health, physical therapy, rehabilitation, counseling, special education and social work. This is very beneficial as it leads to the development of comprehensive assessment of patients' conditions which can help identifying patients' multiple needs. It is the view of the scientists and professionals that for variety of reasons, parents and care givers have to be aware of the availability of new services and professional support provided by professionals in variety of areas, i.e. medical, psychology, counseling and social work. Within home environment and on a daily basis child may be exposed to malnutrition, poor hygiene, lack of indoor plumbing, lack of air circulation, and spread of insects.

Considering the complexity of life and exposure to various types of life events, an urgent need has emerged for communication and collaboration among various professionals and practitioners in the educational, mental, physical and social fields work in many types of organizations. It is a challenge to new journals such as Paediatrics to encourage researchers from those areas of education and practice to prepare significant research studies and share findings with specialists in the field of pediatric.

It is the fact that any addition of journals in the medical field such as pediatric is by all means a contribution to the mission of medical service as millions of children are in drastic need to receive basic medical health and mental health services. Additionally, research in the field of pediatric care has to move away from the overdependence on linear models into multidimensional models which integrate other factors and material. This will help produce more advance research to reach to valid and reliable findings. On the other side, this also require the collaboration among researchers from variety of specialties to work together to identify and develop strong study question and sophisticated study hypotheses. Accordingly, the utilization of appropriate statistical analyses will move findings and move from merely descriptive into inferential analyses to determine the causes and consequences of specific medical problem.

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