Family needs assessment & Identification model

Parents of chronically ill children identified information related to planning for their children future. As their greatest need, followed by identifying appropriate community resources understanding how the disease/conditions affects the children’s growth and development, and to improve communication among their children’s health care providers (Hormer, Rawlines and Giles (1987)), Rawlines, Rawlines & Horner(1990) further explained that parents of children with chronic disability perceived that needs are primarily influences by concerns within three key areas, which are: Information, Services, and access to health care. They indicated information to be the primary need of parents, availability of special services.

Another great concerns by the parents is the needs for guidance with regards to the care of their children in the event of their own death (Constance, Kathleen S, Patricia & Sherike (2008))

According to Donal et al(2001) in assessment of families needs, there is the need for information, based on the assumption on that parents of child with disability may need information beyond that required for rearing child without disability (Turnbull 1986) Highly priority needs may include information about their child, how to teach or interact with their child or service available for the present and future.

Another area is Need for Support: Highly priority needs may include additional support from early intervention professionals, opportunities to meet and interact with other families, informal support from spouses, friends, relatives or neighbours and support from ministers and religious organisation.

Community services: Parents not only need information about available community services but they may also need assistance in accessing those services such as access to medical or dental care and assistance in securing child care, including babysitters, day care or care during religious services.

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