



Emotional, behavioral and social difficulties among children with type 1 diabetes mellitus

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Abstract:

Background: Children and adolescents with diabetes are at a greater risk for emotional and behavioral problems. Aim of the study was to assess behavioral, emotional and social difficulties of diabetic children and examine the association of these difficulties with demographic and disease related variables. **Subjects and method:** A cross sectional study of 423 diabetic children attended Sidi Galal health insurance outpatient clinic in Assiut city - Egypt was conducted. A similar number of healthy children matched for age, sex and socioeconomic status were included in the study as a control group used for comparison. **Strength and Difficulty Questionnaire (SDQ)** was used as a screening tool. The SDQ is a screening instrument consisting of five separate 5-item subscales for emotional symptoms, conduct problems, hyperactivity-inattention, peer problems, and prosocial behavior. **Results:** Most of diabetic children (92.9%) were in the abnormal group of the total score compared to 20.6% of the controls. In all SDQ subscales except prosocial, diabetic children had significantly higher percentages of abnormal indices than in controls (p value

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