

Parental Health Literacy in the Pediatric Surgical Setting

Georgios Kampouroglou¹, Venetia-Sofia Velonaki², Ioanna D. Pavlopoulou², Georgios Fildissis², Konstantinos Tsoumakas²

¹Department of Pediatric Surgery, Aghia Sophia Children's Hospital, Athens, Greece

²Department of Nursing, School of Health Sciences, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

Abstract

Health literacy (HL) in the pediatric setting has been associated with poor health outcomes and plays an important role in the existing health disparities. Low parents'/caregivers' HL influences health outcomes mainly in chronically ill children. Trying to identify the role of HL in the pediatric surgical and dentistry setting, we conducted a review of the relevant literature. The paucity of studies and the heterogeneity of the methodology do not lead to specific results. The need for more and larger studies in the field is evident and crucial in order to ameliorate the quality of surgical care in pediatric patients.

Key words: health literacy, pediatric, parent, surgery