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Andes pediatr. 2023;94(5): DOI: 10.32641/andespediatr.v94i5.4522

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Psychometric validation of a guideline for classifying the medical complexity of children and adolescents with special health care needs

Validación psicométrica de Pauta de Clasificación de Complejidad Médica de niños, niñas y adolescentes con Necesidades Especiales de Atención en Salud

Components	Need	Definition	Alternative	Score
1. Need for complex care	Number of compromised systems	The number of functional anatomical systems compromised must be counted	A compromised system	1
			Two to four systems compromised	3
			Five or more compromised systems	4
	Need for polypharmacy	Drugs used chronically must be accounted for. Drugs should not be considered for morbidity or acute processes. Complementary medicines, homeopathy or vitamins (except vitamin D) should not be included	Does not require drugs	0
			Requires 1 to 2 drugs	1
			Requires 3 a 4 drugs	3
			Requires 5 or more drugs	4
	Need Alternative via of drug administration	No indication for pharmacological treatment	No requiere fármacos	0
		The administration of drugs that requires alternative routes such as nasogastric tube, nasojejunal tube, gastrostomy device	No drugs required	1
		Subcutaneous route: A drug that is administered between the skin and the muscle, by injections (eg Heparin, insulin, growth hormone, etc.)	At least one enteral medicine, other than oral At least one medicinal product for subcutaneous or intramuscular administration.	3
		Intramuscular route: the drug is injected directly into the muscle	At least one intravenous medication	4
	Need for inaccessible drugs	It has no indications for pharmacological treatments	It does not require drugs	0
		The drugs are prescribed by the doctor and can be purchased by the user in CESFAM, hospital or regular pharmacies	Use accessibility medications and low cost level	1
		The drug is not a habitual purchase of the aforementioned places and can be acquired by exceptional purchase request either in CRS, medical complexity center or in hospitalization. When this is not possible, consider the purchase by the user	Inaccessible medication, requires special purchase in secondary or tertiary care, or purchase by the user	3
		They are the drugs stipulated by Ricarte Soto law, which in NANES are generally palivizumab, insulin pumps, etc.	High-cost drug considered in the Ricarte Soto Law	4
		Medication that requires follow-up in secondary care. Includes Explicit GES Health Guarantees. Such as insulin, chemotherapy, antiretroviral treatments	Medication incorporated into ministerial programs, which require follow-up in secondary care	4

	Special feeding needs	Children and adolescents with Medical Complexity with habitual feeding, without restriction	Regular food, without restrictions or special needs	0
		Specific dietary restrictions are included, for example gluten-free, lactose-free, as well as multiple food allergies.	Special diets (gluten-free, lactose-free)	1
		Special food either for exclusive or mixed use, which must be prescribed by a nutritionist or doctor. These include an additional cost to families or health system. Children with allergy to cow's milk protein CMP older than two years are also scored here	Use of special formulas, CMP older than two years.	2
		Special food indicated by neurologist specialist in refractory epilepsy, It is exclusive, not mixed. They should have follow-up with neurologist and nutritionist. This also includes metabolic diseases with restrictive diets that must eliminate the causative factor of their disease. They must be followed up by a specialist in metabolic diseases	Ketogenic diet and/or diet for metabolic diseases.	3
2. Need for respiratory supports	Need for oxygen therapy	Oxygen therapy should be added in those who are on invasive or noninvasive ventilation.	No oxygen therapy	0
		It should be included no matter how long they use it	With oxygen therapy	4
	Need for aspiration of secretions	Does not require assistance in removing secretions	No aspiration required	0
		It consists of the elimination of secretions by aspiration of the mouth, nose and pharynx	Requires nasopharyngeal aspiration	1
		The secretions are removed by aspirating with a special device, through an artificial area (endotracheal tube or tracheostomy cannula)	Requires tracheal aspiration	3
	Need for mechanical ventilation	Does not require ventilatory support	No requiere ventilación mecánica	0
		Includes devices such as CPAP or BIPAP	Ventilación mecánica no invasiva	3
		It corresponds to a ventilator itself, in tracheostomized users. Ventilator dependent, is defined as any child who, being medically stable, continues to need mechanical assistance to breathe	Ventilación mecánica invasiva	4
3. Need for technical aids	Need for technical aids for autonomy, social participation and inclusion	Technical assistance can be: neurological car, wheel-chair, standing position, augmentative communication devices, visual agendas, lecterns, noise canceling hearing aids, cochlear implant, hearing aids, lenses, etc. It may be associated with the milestones of the child's motor and sensory development, where he may need support to supplement the function or replace it completely. Count each of the technical aids, even if their frequent use is in pairs (e.g. gutters in both legs will be counted as 2 technical aids (TA)	Autonomy in the transfer or daily participation	0
(TA)			Need for 1 TA	1
			Need for 2 TA	2
			Need for 3 or more TA	3
			Impossibility of autonomy and social participation (e.g., use of clinical cot, typing, prostration)	4
	Need of aids for care or hygiene	The technical assistance (TA) can be: Sitting for bath, tub for bed, anti-decubitus mattress, grab bars, etc.	Does not require TA for care	0
			Need for 1 TA	1
			Need for 2 TA	2
			Need for 3 or more TA	3
	Need for orthopaedic technical aids	They are those that help straighten or correct or avoid problems of alignment of the musculoskeletal system (bones, joints and muscles), in addition to reducing / avoiding pain and reducing / avoiding injuries. They also replace functions that are deficient, such as when there is muscle weakness. Within the orthopedic technical aids we find the casts, the orthoses (templates, inserts, OTP, KAFO, HKAFO, gutters, corset, palmettes etc.), sitting and abductor / adductor cushions, among others.	Does not require TA	0
			Need for 1 to 3 TA	1
			Need for 4 or more orthopedic or more complex TA such as a brace or orthopedic helmet.	2
			TOTAL (SUM)	