

## Abstract

**Background and Aim:** It seems that storytelling can positively affect the growth and social adjustment of hospitalized children even in very challenging environments such as intensive care units, so this study aimed to investigate the effect of storytelling on social development and social adjustment of children with chronic disease at 10-6 years old (primary school age).

**Methods:** In this descriptive cross-sectional and comparative study, 60 children (in two groups of 30 control and intervention) with chronic hospitalization disease were investigated in order to investigate the effect of storytelling on social growth and adjustment. . In addition to routine care, the intervention group underwent 8 sessions of storytelling for 4 days (twice a day) and each time for 45 minutes, which was performed by the researcher. Authentic publications have been used for storytelling to children (Banafeh, Ofogh-Orange, etc.) from writers such as Mostafa Rahmadoost, Farhad Hassanzadeh, Sarwar Pouria (Scientific Tales), Susan Taqdis, Mehdi Mirkiani, and books like 365 Stories and My Hero you, and books translated by Nahid Farajzadeh have been used. For statistical analysis, SPSS software version 25 and T-couples, independent T-tests, Frequenc measure Anova and ancova analysis were used if needed.

**Results:** In terms of gender, in the intervention group (66.7%) 20 and in the control group (60.0%) 18 were male and the rest were female. The results of children's studies in terms of gender, type of delivery, mother's education, birth rank, type of disease, genetic history based on Fischer's accurate test showed that only the number of hospitalizations had a significant relationship with the type of group under study ( $P=0.034$ ) and the rest were homogeneous according to  $P>0.05$ . On the other hand, the results of independent T-test showed that after the intervention, unlike before the intervention, the changes in the mean score of coping with themselves, family, peers and adjustment, growth and social age in the intervention group were significantly higher than the control group. ( $P<0/001$ ).

**Conclusion:** According to the present study, social skills training using storytelling has a significant role in social development and social adjustment in children aged 6-10 years with chronic disease..

**Keywords:** Social adjustment, Social development, Chronic disease, Children

