

## The Experience of Caregivers in Accessing Oral Health Care Facilities for Cerebral Palsy Children: A Qualitative Study

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### ABSTRACT

**INTRODUCTION:** Maintaining oral health (OH) is a major issue among children with cerebral palsy (CP) due to various factors and one of them having barriers in accessing OH services. This study explored the experience of the caregivers on accessibility towards OH services for their children with cerebral palsy (CP) in Kota Bharu, Kelantan. **METHODS:** A purposive sampling was utilised, audio-recorded in-depth interview conducted on ten CP's caregivers in this qualitative phenomenology study. Transcribed verbatim were reviewed, NVivo used in developing themes and facilitate data management. **RESULTS:** Ten CP's caregivers aged 32-60 years participated, mostly from low socio-economic status, low level of education and the children with CP predominantly in Gross Motor Function Classification System IV. From ten verbatim transcripts, five themes have emerged; dental experience (unable to identify and express dental problem), family support (sole primary caregiver, poor relationship among family), mobility (lack of transportation, facility not disabled friendly), ability to pay (financial constraints) and social value (stigma, marginalised by surrounding). **DISCUSSION:** OH literacy, appropriate OH services, OH outreach programme and future OH home services, suggesting promoting the ability in accessing OH facility. Highly dependent children with CP needs physical support however unsupportive interactions amongst family jeopardized their dental needs. Social support will assist CP's caregiver in parenting duty however poor social support, restriction on mobility and costly basic necessities could detrimental their OH need. Therefore, attentions are needed to address related barrier factors that are impeding access of CP children to OH facilities.

**KEYWORDS:** cerebral palsy, qualitative research, oral health service accessibility

## The Fate of Being Sandwich Generation: How the Children's Health in Three Generation?

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### ABSTRACT

**INTRODUCTION:** Along with the increasing demographic trends in the past few years, such as increasing life expectancy and decreasing fertility, attention to a sandwich generation where middle-aged people care for young people and elderly parents simultaneously also increased, although in fact in Indonesia the phenomenon is not a strange thing. Many studies have conducted research on the impact of being in the position of a squeezed generation, both in terms of health, employment, expenditure and so on. However, on the contrary, this study focuses on the health of the child which is likened to the stack of a sandwich at the bottom layer. This study compares the health of children who are in sandwich generation with those who are not in that position. **METHODS:** This study used panel data from IFLS in 2007 and 2014 with a unit of analysis of 6,886 children aged 0 to 18 years. This study used Multinomial Logistic Regression in panel data, with BMI and Hemoglobin Levels as child health variables and sandwich generation dummy as the main independent variables, while the control variables used household characteristics, parental characteristics, and child characteristics. **RESULTS:** being in the sandwich generation significantly affected the child's BMI ( $\beta = -0.0194139$ ,  $p = 0.075$ ) and significantly affected the child's Haemoglobin Level ( $\beta = 0.0241834$ ,  $p = 0.035$ ). **DISCUSSION:** Therefore, the health of children in three generations is important to be noticed, especially when Indonesia is in aging societies for the next 20 to 30 years.

**KEYWORDS:** Children's Health; BMI; BMR; Sandwich Generation; IFLS