

CAPACITY BUILDING OF FAMILIES HAVING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

DECISION MAKING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

SERIES -5

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DECISION MAKING BY PARENTS IN PREVENTING COVID-19 SPREAD

Parents of children with disability should take a decision in protecting the child with disabilities from COVID -19 spread by providing nutritious food such as immunity booster, homemade syrups, proper supplementary food, the medicine they use, and the effective disease prevention measures, such as mask and frequent hand wash, usage of alcohol-based hand rubs and maintaining of social distancing .the parents of children with disabilities.



Tips for parents to taking proper decision on protecting their child with disability from COVID -19 spread:

- When it comes to the food and the nutrition in take parent should take advice from the nutritionist/doctor through telephonic consultation.
- When it comes to the medicine intake, before taking any decision parents and family members should have consultation with doctors.
- Before taking any decision on using the preventive measures, the parents should look for modifications to be done in the needs of children with disabilities. For example NIVH have made transparent mask for the persons with hearing impairment, likewise children having sensory impairment may find difficulty in washing hands with water frequently in such case hand sanitizers is the solution and the social distancing is another challenging issues while care giving for children with disabilities.



DECISION MAKING BY PARENT FOR TAKING TREATMENT /OR OPTING FOR TREATMENT PROCEDURE:

Emotions mixed with biases can lead people to make wrong decisions in terms of taking treatment for COVID-19, particularly when it comes to persons with disabilities or children with disabilities; it is even more difficult in making the right decision of taking treatment during COVID-19 pandemic. In general decision making in taking treatment is a process that involves the understanding of the illness, available options for treating the illness, and understanding the goal of the treatment, considering the risk and benefits of the treatment, and get a second opinion. But the current scenario is not as usual as deciding on taking treatment for the COVID-19 pandemic; it is parents/caregiver's responsibility to make the right decision on taking treatment.



Here is some suggestion regarding decision making on taking treatment during COVID -19 pandemic:

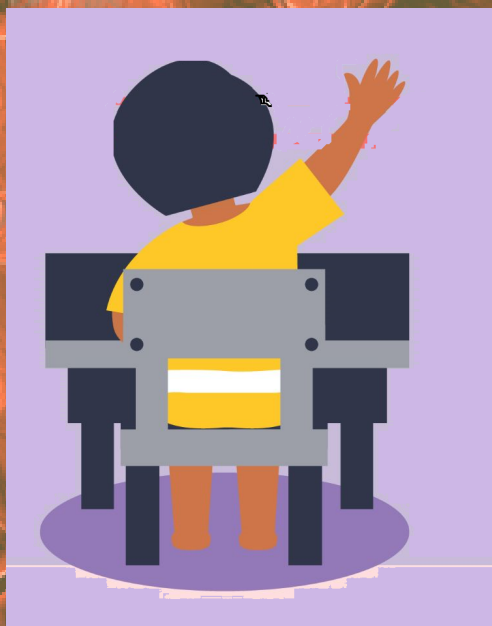
If you found that your child is having symptoms of COVID-19, you have to look for immediate health care, don't feel that if informed to the health care workers they will take complete control over your family. The procedure for treatment will be lost for fifteen days if not informing the authorities. This will have an adverse effect on a child with disability and also impact the health of the family.



Whenever you're deciding for hospitalization of your child with disability for COVID-19 or any other illness make sure that all the protective measures are available in the hospital.



- Parents need to understand the intervention procedure and to prepare their child with disability for testing and treatment of COVID-19. Children with disability usually feel anxious toward strangers so the parents must convey their child with disability that, the persons involved in testing procedure and treatment.



DECISION MAKING FOR THE THERAPUTIC INTERVENTION AND EDUCATION OF CHILD WITH DISABILITIES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC LOCKDOWN:



Children with disabilities need therapeutic intervention and special education for the development of children with disabilities for a lifetime. This COVID-19 pandemic lockdown has made a situation that special schools and therapy centers closed.



Tip for parents to make decisions for the therapeutic intervention and education of a child with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown:



Before taking any decision on the therapeutic intervention of the child with disabilities during COVID-19 pandemic lockdown parents/caregivers should ask opinions or suggestions from the therapist to carry out therapies at home. When it comes to children with multiple disabilities they need multiple therapeutic interventions such as behaviour modification, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, special education and speech and language therapy.





- Before proceeding for deciding on the educational intervention of the child with disabilities during COVID-19 pandemic lockdown parents/caregivers should ask for recommendations and suggestions, home programs from the special educators to carry out educational interventions at home.



CONCLUSION

Decisions are the hardest thing to make, especially when it comes to children with disability we need to be careful enough to make the right choice in providing food, health care, therapeutic interventions, and educational intervention, and so on. Good decisions lead to a better path so, try to make good decisions based on your analytical skill.



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