

Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics: A Psycho-Cultural Approach

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Talking Pediatrics refers to the welfare of the newborn, taking into consideration his behavior and his development. It is worth to emphasize and mention that we cannot talk of Pediatrics without having a glance to how the mother of the newborn survived the pregnancy period and how the birthchild was handled. These elements play an important role to figure out how the growth of the newborn will be. The development and behavior of a newborn is affected positively or negatively by the behavior of the mother, the one we think does not live in a sole network but in a socio-cultural network which impacts on the birth child, the health of the pregnant woman and the pediatrics considerations in general. A mother, who spent a pregnancy period in harmony with the family (society, environment) is expected to go through well-balanced parturition, in the absence of infections or programmed complications. This is why a global approach is envisaged in the care to be given to the newborn in order to attain successful pediatrics management. Let us consider a nutrition aspect picking the case of breast-feeding, for example. We may notice that, not only the milk that comes out of the mother's breast is crucial for the baby. On a psychological point of view, the fact that a baby remains in the chest of the mother, sucking the breast even if no milk is coming out, increases the attachment and the affectivity of the newborn to the mother. This is an expression of libido of Sigmund Freud. While advising and campaigning on the breastfeeding for a newborn, the emphasis should not be put only on the chemical or biological nutriment but also on the psychic nutriment, which contribute to the total care and development of this newborn and build his behavior tomorrow. In our research on psychological accompaniment to complicated childbirth's, we considered the problem of childbirth as a node containing several facets, which facets could be treated in synergy between several specialties. It is this holistic view of the problem that, amongst other things, has led us to believe that the mother as well as the newborn does live not in a social and cultural vacuum, but rather in a network of social and cultural relations. This society waits from the newborn, in terms of potential, will occupy status and plays roles in this society and change the environment.

Keywords

Newborn, Mother, Society, Environment, Culture, Development, Nutriment.

development is both species-specific and entirely related to relationships with different partners.

Introduction

Addressing the issue of pediatric and neonatal care is talking about the health or well-being of the newborn. This question involves several aspects of this baby's development and behavior. Lissauer and Clayden [1] emphasize that child health is profoundly influenced by its social, cultural and physical environment. According to Bronfenrenner [2], the universe of the child is composed of extensive and interconnected socio-environmental layers, which overlap and influence its health and development.

To think about it, it is necessary to take into account the child, his family and their immediate social environment, the local social fabric, as well as the national and international environment. Hence, our ability to intervene as a clinician must be observed in the context of interdependent influences on health.

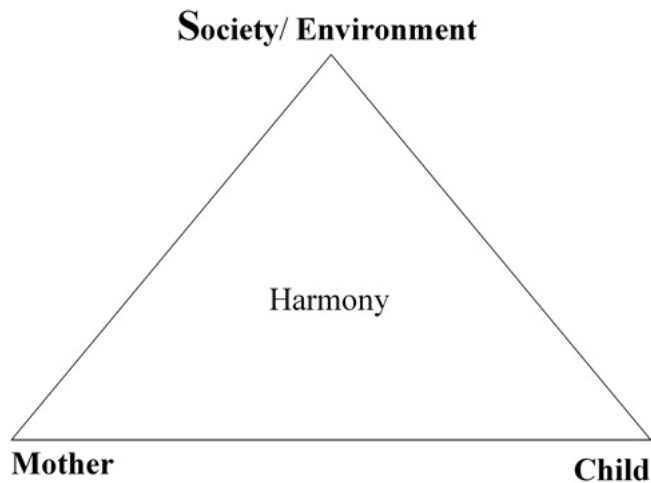
This approach is the foundation of our psycho-cultural approach that would require the care of the newborn to be multidisciplinary, taking into account this framework of influences and psychocultural interactions.

As a result, it can be said that the infant's physical and emotional

Hence, our mother-child trilogy, society / environment is an

approach that the child is considered as a being to evolve, not in a closed vacuum, but rather in a socio-cultural network such that the existing harmony promotes the behavioral and developmental balance of it among other.

Mother-child-society / environment trilogy



This trilogy helps to understand the key factors in the development and behavior of the newborn.

This means that pediatrics cannot be conceived without reference to the mother, childbirth and conception. Then to the society or environment in which this newborn has a role to play.

Society/ Environment

The top of this approach is the society or the material and immaterial environment, physical and psychic. We study immediate family, extended family, school, village, country, some and customs, parent education, ecosystem, recurring events in the life of society. In short, all those who bring about the advent of a child in society.

This is the first step to influence the development and behavior of the child. What some people call "the child in society to the environment". This environment acts continuously on the life of the child as the unconscious of Sigmund Freud.

Child

In Luba culture, as in many African cultures, the arrival of a newborn is a grandiose event. A Luba expression says "Kulela nkuabanya mesu" which translates as "to give birth is to propagate one's vision" [3]. And for its part, Kamanga Mbuyi [4] says "childbirth is a major event in family life, childbirth is, like a funeral, the occasion for expressing alliance relationships as well as tensions. existing between spouses and lineages that are allied by their intermediaries. It is the alliance and the continuity of the chain of filiation that are the basis of social life. The great value this society places on the child is the basis of the special privilege and treatment accorded to the expectant mother.

The child represents continuity, power and offspring. An anecdote luba says: "Kabondo Ka muana wa dipanda, Bakulele walela

biebe" which means a palm tree generates a palm tree, child as you were born too" [3]. The newborn is, like the mother-to-mother, between the influence of the mother and that of society, and this largely determines its growth and behavior.

Mother

The mother, future delivery agent, is the first to be interviewed whenever the newborn has discomfort.

This notion also includes the father, but since it is the mother who carries the pregnancy, she suffers the bulk of the real weight of childbirth and her influence is much more direct in the child than the influence of the father.

By evoking the mother in pediatric and neonatal care, we want to show the psycho-emotional factors that, in one way or another, facilitate a harmonious emotional development. These include emotional deprivation, somatic expressive disorders, infant depression, and so on. We believe in encouraging fantasmatic and affective mother-child interactions in addition to bodily and behavioral interactions.

John Bowlby, quoted by Jeremy Holmes [5], speaking of attachment emphasizes that the propensity to establish strong bonds with particular individuals exists from birth and is maintained throughout life. These include crying, sucking, gripping, ... that maintain the physical proximity and accessibility to the figure of privileged attachment that is often represented by the mother. This is what Bowlby calls precocious / child affective bond in the development of the human being.

Nutritional aspect

Previous considerations of the mother-child-society / environment trilogy are also relevant for newborn nutrition. We emphasize that food is not just the bio-clinical nutrients that contribute to the growth of an infant. There is also the psychic food that is provided through acts, gestures.

These interactions through emotional and affective communication are crucial for the development of all areas of the psychic life of the child and are as much nourishment for infant growth as biochemical nutrients.

Take the most striking case is that of breastfeeding. Many advertisements are made about it around the world. But, infant fatping also plays a big role as a psychic nutrient. All these advertisements make no mention of mother-child affectivity. However, the fact that the baby is caught in the breast of the mother strengthens attachment and libibo and is a very important food for its development. To insist on this aspect would incite many women who still resist to practice breastfeeding to believe in it and put it into practice. It's a pleasure principle.

Conclusion

We approached pediatrics and neonatal care from an angle that opens the horizons for practitioners to explore multiple

dimensions in care. We believe that culture plays a proper role in the development and behavior of the newborn, future adult.

This care of the newborn, which takes into account the harmony that must exist in the psycho-emotional and cultural environment of the newborn in pediatrics and neonatal care, is what we call the psycho-cultural approach.

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