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The Contribution of Infirmiry Services to Education in Secondary Schools a Survey On Izmir Bornova District

Ortaokullarda Revir Hizmetlerinin Eğitime Katkısı İzmir Bornova İlçesi Üzerinden Bir İnceleme

Yeliz Ünal¹ ¹ Teacher., Ministry of Education , İzmir, Turkey**ÖZET**

Eğitimin önemli saç ayaklarından biri olan öğrencinin okula devamının sağlanması başarıyı etkileyen faktörlerden biridir. Öğretmen, öğrenme ortamı, yeterlilik ve hazır bulunuşluk, öğrenme isteği, sağlık ve devamlı ve sürekli eğitim öğrenmenin temel disiplinleri olup bu araştırmada, bu disiplinlerden biri olan öğrencinin öğrenmeye devamının sağlanmasında bir okulda hizmet veren okul revir hizmetinin öğrencinin öğrenmeye devam etmesine katkı süreci incelenecektir. Acil önlem alınabilecek veya ilk yardım ile çözülebilecek basit sağlık sorunlarının yerinde ve anında çözümü ile öğrencinin okula devamının sağlanmasına katkısının incelendiği bu makale eğitimin temel disiplinlerinden olan sağlık ve devamlılık üzerine yapılan bir araştırmadır.

Özellikle ergenlik çağında olan gençlerde; yaşadığı dönemin getirmiş olduğu aşırı hareketlilik, dikkat dağınıklığı, ergenlik münasebetiyle hareketlerde görülen aşırılık bunlardan kaynaklı basit yaralanmalarda ilk müdahaleyi gerektirmektedir. Kız öğrencilerin ergenliğe girmesi ile birlikte yaşamış oldukları en önemli sağlık sorunlarından biri olan regl sancısı da ilk müdahale ile çözülebilmekte ve bu durumlar sonucunda öğrenci eğitimine devam edebilmektedir. Ayrıca beden eğitimi derslerinde oluşan sportif yaralanmalar bu çağın çocuklarında oluşan anatomik değişikliklerle birlikte en çok rastlanan yaralanma türlerindedir.

Okulda revir bulunması hem bunların ivedi olarak çözülmesini sağlarken hem de gerçekten ileri müdahale gerektiren durumların tespitinin sağlanmasına öncülük etmekte öğrenci yaşamış olduğu sağlık sorununun ciddiyeti tespit edildiğinde bir üst tıbbi kuruma yönlendirilmektedir. Ayrıca öğrencilerin gelişim süreçlerinin takibi, boy kilo endekslerinin ölçümlerinin yapılması, okullarda sıkça rastlanmaya başlayan insülin kullanan öğrencilerin iğnelerinin hemşireler tarafından uygulanması şeker ölçümlerinin yapılabilmesi için her ne kadar okul içerisinde eğitim öğretim hizmeti veren öğretmenlere Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı tarafından eğitimler verilmeye çalışılsa da bu tür uygulamaların sağlıkçılar tarafından yapılması riski azaltmakta ve öğrenci sağlığının korunarak devam etmesine olanak sağlamaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Öğrenci, Okul Reviri, Devamsızlık, Ortaokul, Öğrenci Başarıları**ABSTRACT**

Ensuring the student's attendance at school, which is one of the important pillars of education, is one of the factors affecting success. Teacher, learning environment, competence and readiness, desire to learn, health, and ongoing education are the basic disciplines of learning. In this study, the contribution process of the school infirmiry service in a school to the continuation of learning will be examined. This article is a research on health and attendance, which is one of the basic disciplines of education. The article asserts that in place and immediate actions taken for the simple health problem and applying a proper first aid will highly contribute to the student's attendance of and stay at school.

Especially in young people who are in adolescence; The excessive activity brought by the period in which they lived, the distraction, the excessive movements due to adolescence cause simple injuries and require the first intervention. An important health problem experienced by female students as they enter puberty is menstrual pain. The school infirmiry service will help students, and as a result of these situations, the students will be able to attend their classes. Moreover, sports injuries happening in physical education classes are among the most common types of injuries in children of this age, together with the abovementioned anatomical changes.

Having an infirmiry at the school not only ensures resolving the abovementioned minor health immediately, but also leads to the detection of situations that really require further intervention, and the student is accordingly directed to a higher medical institution when the health problem is determined to be serious. In addition, although the Ministry of National Education gives trainings to the teachers for monitoring the development processes of the students, to measure the height and weight indexes, to apply the injections of the students who use insulin, which is frequently encountered in schools, to carry out sugar measurements, such practices are not recommended by health professionals. It is known that carrying out such treatments by health professionals reduces the risk and allows the continuation of student health.

Keywords: Student, School Infirmiry, Absenteeism, Secondary School, Student Success

INTRODUCTION

The importance of school infirmiries for students who are absent for health reasons, which is one of the effective factors in absenteeism affecting students' success in schools, will be discussed in this research report. What is the effect and relation of the school nurse's intervention in secondary school students suffering monthly periods, minor injuries, health problems that require intervention to the students' continuing education? In this research, based on the example of the school where the application has been carried out, it will be examined whether the student continues to classes after the health examination.

In this report, which studies the contribution of providing infirmiry services to students' continuation of education, the importance of providing infirmiry services at schools will be discussed in order to increase student success. In cases requiring simple first aid, the results of the intervention of the student by the school nurses will be discussed and evaluated. Established in Bornova Hilal Necmiye Hüsnü Ataberk Secondary



School; the number of students who applied to the school infirmary service, the reasons for their application, the procedures after their application, and the results to be examined with the tables and hence the correlation between student's attendance and employing school nurse will be discussed. The importance of to be healthy in the education life for the individual development of the student has been accepted in all disciplines. As for all other disciplines, the first and most important element of education is health. This study, which concerns the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Health and the related branches of Universities that train health personnel, addresses a wide institutional structure and students and their parents.

This study, will benefit large audiences as it should be included in evaluation, examination and structuring studies in the field of health and education.

In Bornova Hilal Necmiye Hüsnü Ataberk Secondary School, a questionnaire technique was applied to the students and their parents on the infirmary service provided for the students and the first intervention practices of the school nurse, and the questionnaires were conducted face to face and completed in a short time. In addition, monthly data collection and data grouping were made and the service provided was analyzed with the SPSS program.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

According to a study, 68.3% of the teachers stated that student absenteeism due to illness is very important, 39.0% of teachers do not know whether student health records are kept regularly, 63.4% of them do not keep students' health information up-to-date in their personal files, 100% of teachers state that there is no health unit at school, 53.7% of them have not received first aid training" (2013). 16th National Public Health Congress Book. Retrieved from https://www.bingol.edu.tr/documents/16_UHSK.pdf.

In the light of the data disclosed, we can see that the teachers do not receive adequate first aid training and that there is no health service in schools in case of emergency response required for the student.

In the Regulation on Primary Education Institutions of the Ministry of National Education, general issues to be considered in education have been determined. In this context, in Article 7 of the regulation; It is stated that "c) Necessary measures are taken for students to acquire knowledge, skills and habits related to hygiene, health and nutrition" (mevzuat.gov.tr). It is recorded by the legislation that educational institutions take the necessary measures for the health of students. In article 8 of the same regulation, the job description of the health personnel who will work in educational institutions is clearly stated; "Article 83 — Health personnel are obliged to carry out the health-related work of students and other personnel at the school. In addition, health personnel in boarding schools carry out their duties in accordance with the "School Pensions Regulation of the Ministry of National Education". They also perform other duties related to the service to be given by the school administration." (mevzuat.gov.tr)

However, although it is determined by law, school infirmary services are not provided to basic education institutions except private education institutions, boarding schools. According to the 2019 data of the Ministry of National Education, there are infirmaries in 5098 public schools. The total number of public schools is 54,715 according to 2019 data. This rate corresponds to 9.3%. From another point of view, 90% of the schools do not have an infirmary service. Well, how does the statement "take the necessary precautions for students to be healthy", which is determined by the law, eliminates the problem of absenteeism, which is an important factor in students' failure, when put into practice.

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Ministry of Education; Private Education Institutions Standards Directive 51- 53 -54 articles, Private Schools Framework Regulation 61 article, Private Education Institutions Standards Directive 33 article, Primary Education Institutions Regulation 130 article, School Hostels Regulation Articles 28-29- 30- 32- 33 -40 and Article 55 of the High School Secondary Schools Regulation list the Infirmary rules that must be followed in schools and the materials required for pharmaceutical services.

The Ministry of National Education Private Schools Framework Regulation, which was published in the Official Gazette dated 22.07.2005 and numbered 25883, made it compulsory to have health personnel in

private schools. In Article 54 of the school's social facilities and health services section, which is in the fifth section of the regulation states that;

“Adequate doctors and health personnel are assigned to carry out health services at the school.

To be applied in case of emergency at school

- a) Health room with doctor section,
- b) First aid cabinet,
- c) First aid instruction prepared by the Institution,
- d) Necessary first aid tools - equipment, stretcher,
- e) Vehicle to take the patient to the nearest health institution as soon as possible,
- f) If the school is boarding, the nurse is on duty.” (Ministry of National Education Framework Regulation for Private Schools, 2005).

In addition, the same regulation makes obligatory to carry out health checks of the students in certain periods. While the infirmary service is made mandatory by the Ministry of National Education in boarding educational institutions, infirmary service is not obligatory in other official educational institutions.

When the factors affecting the absenteeism of students are examined, six topics prevail: from school administration, family, teacher, environment, academic failure anxiety, and individual reasons. Health reasons are included in individual and environmental factors. The student may be absent from school due to the contagiousness of the health problems experienced in the environment or his own illness. For health problems, which is one of the main factors affecting absenteeism, health services should be made compulsory in public schools as well as in private schools. “School absenteeism is an undesirable student behavior that can be caused by many physical, psychological and social factors and is thought to negatively affect student academic success.” (Altunkurt, 2008)

School attendance is compulsory in primary and secondary education institutions. However, studies show that many students are absent for certain reasons.

“In Türkiye there is a 30% difference between students who have just started secondary education and those who have graduated. This difference shows that 30 out of 100 students who have just started secondary education, leave the system due to academic failure or absenteeism.” (Karadaş) It is essential for all students to stay in formal education for both individual success and social welfare.

Learning is a process that requires continuity and permanence. It is the level of development of individuals that determines the level of development of societies. In this context, the education of individuals and their motivation for education is an important factor that accelerates the learning process.

When the factors affecting learning are considered, the readiness level of the learner is important. In order to arouse the desire to learn in the student, the student must be ready to learn with his internal and external motivations.

“Learning topics should also be presented in a way that motivates the individual to learn.

Intrinsic motives; The power (motive source) that makes the individual act is from himself. Being successful, getting rid of curiosity, reaching goals, healthy living, etc.

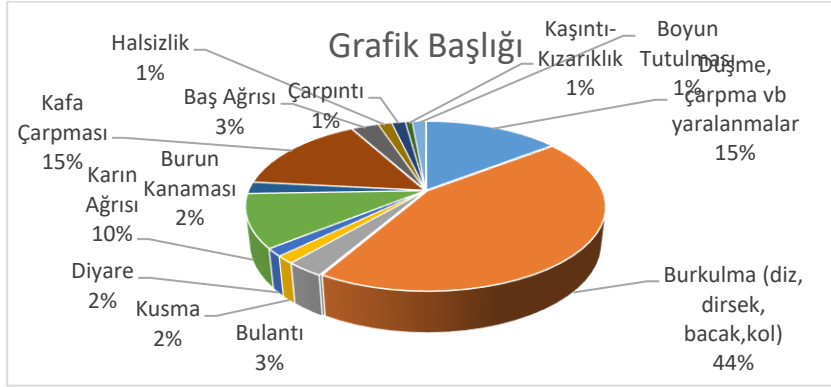
Extrinsic motives; The power that drives an individual to act comes from outside. Getting high grades, getting teacher appreciation, getting pocket money, getting status.” (Engin)

In order for the individual's desire to learn to continue, it is necessary to be motivated or to eliminate the problems that prevent motivation. In this context, minimizing and eliminating health problems will accelerate the motivation of the individual to learn.

When the student's self-induced absenteeism problems are examined; Among the most important reasons for absenteeism of students are factors such as any illness they are experiencing and the fear of getting low grades in exams related to their courses.” (Cenkseven, 2008)

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Table showing the health problems experienced by the students who benefited from the school infirmary service within a month



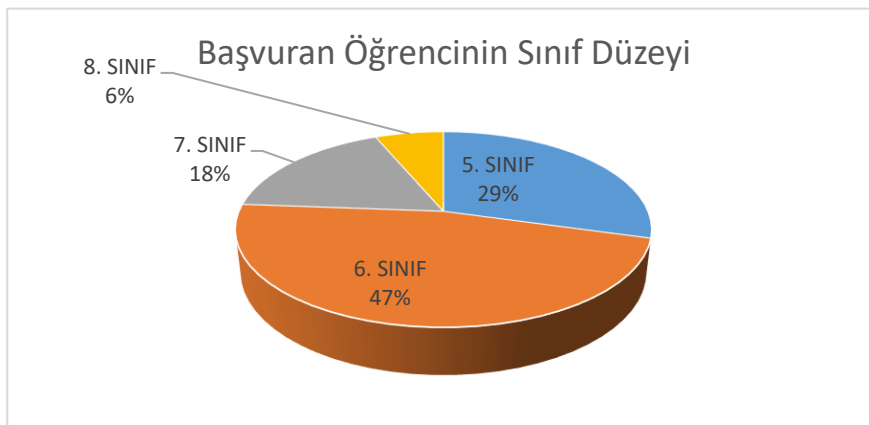
As stated in Table 1, the majority of students apply to the infirmary service for problems that require first aid such as falling, hitting, and sprains. 44% of the students received treatment from the school nurse for a simple sprain and 15% of the students for a simple fall injury. Simple injuries such as fall injuries and sprains are followed by the complaint of stomach aches with a rate of 10%.

Table 2: Complaints and figures of those who applied to the infirmary service in a month

Complaints of those applying to the infirmary service within a month	Figure
Falling, bumping etc. injuries	20
Sprains (knee, elbow, leg, arm)	60
Nausea	4
Vomiting	2
Diarrhea	2
Stomach ache	14
Nose bleeding	3
Head Bumping	21
Headache	4
Weakness	2
palpitations	2
Itching - Redness	1
Stiff Neck	2

While 60 of the students who applied to the infirmary received treatment from the nurses for their sprain complaints, 20 students came to the infirmary with the complaints of falling, bumping and injury, and 14 students received help due to stomach ache.

Table 3: Grade levels of the students who benefited from the infirmary service within a month



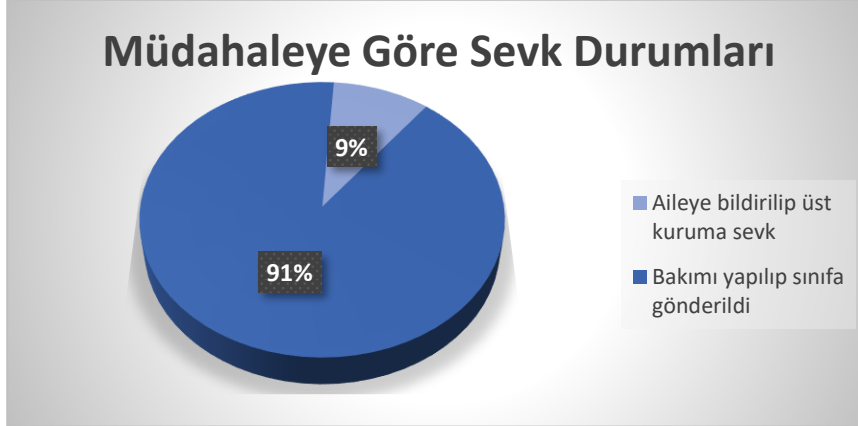
According to the grade levels, we find out that the 6th grade students and the 5th grade students mostly benefit from the infirmary service. The higher grade level, the number of students benefiting from the infirmary service decreases. It can be conferred that the higher grade level, the cases of crashes, falls and injuries of students become less.

As indicated in Table 4, 59 students in 6th grades and 37 students in 5th grades benefited from the infirmary service, and the least is 8th graders.

Table 4: Number of students benefiting from infirmary services by grade level within a month

CLASS LEVEL OF THE STUDENT	
5TH GRADE	37
6TH GRADE	59
7TH GRADE	22
8TH GRADE	8

Table 5: Status of the students who benefited from the infirmary service in a one-month period according to the intervention



91% of the students who benefited from the infirmary service within a month were able to continue the classes by making the first intervention. However, 9% of the students were required to be directed to a higher health institution. Student's family was called and informed. The whole process (the date, time and first aid information) was recorded by the school nurse to the school health services chart.

Table 6: Referral status according to the intervention in a one-month period

DISPATCH SITUATIONS ACCORDING TO THE INTERVENTION	
Reporting to the family and referral to the higher institution	12
Cared for and sent to class	125

DEMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

As can be seen from the tables and graphics, 91% of the students continued their lessons at school after the first aid and immediate intervention. The effect of attendance is an important factor in the academic success. If the infirmary service was not provided at the school, no intervention would have been made by the teachers who could not be as competent as the health professionals and who would not have received adequate training in first aid training. Hence, the school administration would have to report to the family and would ask to send the student to a medical institution. However, with the simple interventions and the treatments to be applied by the nurses, the students continued their education. In addition, the necessary procedures for referral to a higher health institution were carried out by professionals who are competent in health services and therefore an objective orientation was ensured.

Table 7: Table showing the results of first aid services and interventions given to students who benefited from the school infirmary service within a month

Reason for applying to the school infirmary	Number of students by reason of application	Treatment/Care and Number of Treatments Applied	How many students were transferred to a higher institution
Falling, bumping, etc. injuries	20	The wound was closed by medical dressing (16) Washing was done with physiological saline (4)	Student was sent to a higher institution for further treatment (suture, etc.) by informing the family. (1) Student was taken care of and sent to the classroom. (16)
Sprains (knee, elbow, leg, arm)	60	Cold compression applied (47) Cream applied (13)	Student was sent to a higher institution for further treatment (suture, etc.) by informing the family. (1)
Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomachache	nausea (4) vomiting (2) diarrhea (2) stomachache (14)	Hot compress applied. (14)	Student was sent to a higher institution for further treatment (suture, etc.) by informing the family. (1)
Nose bleeding	3	Bleeding stopped. (3)	Student was taken care of and sent to the classroom. (3)
head bumping	21	Cold compression applied. (21)	Student was taken care of and sent to the classroom. (21)
Headache	4	No attempt (4)	Student was sent to the classroom.(4)
Weakness	2	No attempt (2)	Student was sent home due to suspected Covid-19. (1)
Palpitation	2	Öğrenci bulguları normal olduğu için okul rehberlik servisi ile görüşülmesi talep edildi. (1)	Student was sent to the classroom. (1)
Itching - redness	1	Cream applied. (1)	Student was taken care of and sent to the classroom. (1)
Neck Stiff	2	Hot compress applied. (2)	Student was sent to the classroom. (2)

The treatments and care like cold and hot compress, medical dressing made by school nurses and contacting family in cases of further treatment, have been shown in the table and it can be concluded that the school infirmary service is sufficient for most of the health problems experienced by the students.

CONCLUSION

The study shows that even in a short period, 91% of health problems experienced by students was taken care when the service was given by health professionals or personnel well trained and well equipped with appropriate conditions and necessary first aid and emergency intervention equipment. 9% of the students were directed to the upper health institution. Considering that continuity and permanence in education is highly important, it has been concluded that school infirmary service should be provided not only in private schools and boarding schools, but also in all public schools. The Norm Staffing applied in the determination of the school staff need to be revised to include school nurses. It is essential to open a school infirmary service and to assign a school nurse in all public schools, especially in crowded schools.

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