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The state of mothers with preschool children in a province in eastern Turkey to choose safe toys

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This descriptive study was conducted in order to determine the states of mothers with preschool children in a province in eastern Turkey to choose safe toys for their children.

The study was carried out in December 2014 in a kindergarten randomly selected from eight kindergartens located in the city center of Tunceli in Turkey. No sampling was performed on the study population. The sample consisted of 73 mothers of preschool children. The data was gathered by using a questionnaire, containing 17 items on the socio-demographic characteristics and security of toys and evaluated by SPSS programme. This study based on ethical issues.

It was found that 57.1% of the children, who had an age average of 4.73±0.67, were girls. 65.5% of the mothers were in the age range of 30-39 years and 46.4% were high school graduates. 39.2% of the mothers bought toys for their children with a time interval less than 3 months and 63.1% bought toys from toyshops.

While buying toys, 46.6% of mothers ignored paying attention to physical and mechanical features of toys, 14.3% having toys with features that would not cause a physical injury, 19.2% having large enough toys so that their children would not swallow them, 31.5% having toys with no risk of choking, 78.9% having toys with features that would enable children to float on shallow water and support them, 80.8% having solvable toys, 75.3% having toys with a motion control, 46.6% having toys without inflammability, 16.4% having toys without hazardous chemicals, 27.4% having toys without explosive features, 50.7% having toys with an electric voltage of maximum 24 volts, 37.0% having toys with no risk of infection, 38.4% having toys without radioactive particles, and 47.9% having toys with the marking of safe toys (CE).

It was observed that the mothers in the sample group did not pay sufficient attention to safety suggestions while buying toys for their children, which poses a risk for child health. Thus, it is recommended for pediatric nurses to inform mothers with preschool children about safe toys.

Biography

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