

# **Home-visit nursing “outcomes” evaluated by both home-visit nursing agencies and families of children with medical complexity in Japan**

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## **Background**

Home-visit nursing “outcomes” evaluated by both home-visit nursing agencies and families of children with medical complexity (CMC) are effective to improve the overall capacity of nursing care.

## **Aim of the study**

This study aims to identify the differences in home-visit nursing “outcomes” evaluated by home-visit nursing agencies and families of CMC, and examine appropriate support for home-visit nursing.

## **Methods**

We conducted a self-rated questionnaire survey by mail with 110 managing leader nurses of home-visit nursing agencies and 579 members of families of children who use home-visit nursing services. The questionnaire contains 7 items of 3 factors of “outcomes” of reliable and valid Home-visit Nursing Quality Indicators for CMC. This study was approved by the ethics review board of the institution the author belongs to.

## **Results**

Fifty-six managing leader nurses and 150 families responded. Using the Mann-Whitney U test, we compared the evaluations of each “outcome” by the leader nurses and families. Evaluations by families were statistically significantly higher in the five items: trouble handling of medical procedures, health condition decisions, home care period, physical stability, and interprofessional cooperation.

## **Conclusions and implications**

The families reported that the support by home-visit nursing brought good outcomes in many aspects. The families evaluated the outcomes for themselves and their children while the leader nurses evaluated all children using their services. This difference may have contributed the lower evaluation by the leader nurses. Home-visit nursing agencies need to determine whether the evaluation by the families is appropriate, and explore the support particulars.