

ABSTRACT

Background: Cerebral Palsy is a public health concern worldwide. It is estimated to have a prevalence of 2-3.5 cases per 1,000 live births in the developed world. These CWCP experience a number of challenges including how they can manage themselves when at home or school, though majority do not access school. In Kayunga district, a number of CWCP are not in school despite attaining the school-going age. However, Mt. Zion Primary School in Kayunga has persistently attracted attendance of CwCP. The efforts and support at this school regarding enhancing self-management capabilities of CwCP is less documented.

Objective: The study aimed at assessing school capacity in developing self-management capabilities among CWCP enrolled at Mt. Zion Primary School in Kayunga district.

Methodology: This study adopted a cross sectional survey and utilized both quantitative and qualitative approaches. In total, 50 respondents including staff, administrators and parents to CWCP at Mt. Zion Primary School participated. These were selected using purposive sampling and simple random sampling techniques. Data on the study was collected by use survey structure questionnaires and in-depth- face to face interviews. SPSS was used to analyse data and findings extracted using descriptive and inferential statistics at univariate, bivariate and multivariate levels.

Results: The study found out that the schools support in providing assistive devices was useful and has a less influence on self-management abilities of CWCP at school ($X^2=4.586$, P-value 0.205), while schools' support in academics was low, and influenced self-management abilities ($X^2=4.586$, P-value .101) and the school's family support in ensuring self-management abilities was also low at ($X^2=2.298$, P-value.317) and health care support for CWCP's was low at ($X^2=1.923$, P-value .589). Generally, school capacity in developing self-management capabilities among CWCP attending Mt. Zion Primary School in Kayunga district was low.

Recommendations: There is need for the school to solicit for the support from government NGOs, CBOs, and other partners, parents and the entire community regarding acquisition of assistive and academic devices and also utilizing referral services. More sensitization to parents of CWCP so as to build high level of community involvement and ensure there is support to parents with CwCP. The school-community relationship regarding supporting CWCP should be supported.