Parental Self-Efficacy and Online Support Among Parents of Children Diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus

The purpose of this evidence-based practice (EBP) project was to develop a Web-based platform to enhance social support and increase self-efficacy of parents with a child with type 1 diabetes. Families faced with the challenges of caring for a child newly diagnosed with type 1 diabetes can be overwhelmed by the regimented demands of diabetes care management. While social support for families has been recognized as an important component to adaptation and has been deemed necessary for helping families develop healthy coping strategies, it is often not available or included by providers as a part of the diabetic management plan. Project outcomes corroborated the benefit of online social support as evidenced by improvement in parental self-efficacy scores and secondary data that supported the positive relationship of social support and self-efficacy in raising a child with type 1 diabetes.