

## ABSTRACT

### **School Age Students (5-13) Living With Diabetes (Type 1 & 2) in the Western Part of Tobago: Their Experiences in Relation to Their Engagement in Educational and Social Activities**

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This qualitative case study investigated the extent to which diabetes affected the educational and social experiences of one male primary school student with Type 2 diabetes and one female secondary school student with Type 1 diabetes, in the western part of Tobago. Data were collected through interviews with the students, their parents, their teachers, and the dietitian. It was found that the diabetic students' lives were negatively affected by the presence of the disease. Additionally, the findings revealed that the students' concerns were founded on fear, uncertainty about the future, academic and health hindrances, lack of health policy, lack of nutritional support, lack of support personnel and systems, isolation, and lack of knowledge/awareness.

**Keywords:** Case studies; Social experience; Health needs; Diabetes; Primary school students; Student attitudes; Secondary school students; Educational experience; Tobago; Trinidad and Tobago