

ABSTRACT

The prevalence of childhood disability in 2-9 year old children in three selected villages in Moruga, Trinidad.

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Many myths and beliefs exist about disabilities. This makes it difficult to deal with the problem of childhood disabilities on a rational and scientific basis. The study was conducted in three villages of Moruga, Trinidad in order to determine the prevalence of childhood disabilities in the area. The impact of caring for the disabled child on the family and the activities of daily living were also determined.

The study was done using a house to house survey of all children 2-9 years old resident in the stated areas.

The prevalence was determined using the Ten Question and Probe (TQP) questionnaire and was found to be 163.9 per 1000 children. Analysis showed that the overall impact of caring for disabled children was much lower than expected. In contrast, the daily activities conformed to expectations.