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Vietnamese Caregivers Reflections on Activities of Daily Life in Relation to the Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory.

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Introduction: In Vietnam, there are about 1.2 million children with disabilities under the age of 16 years. There is a twofold need. On one hand, health care services do not entirely meet the needs of caregivers and children with disabilities. On the other hand, there is a need for capacity building in health services such as the use of assessments.

Objective: This study aims to explore whether the Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory (PEDI) is applicable for Vietnam by reflecting on activities of daily life (ADL) of children with disabilities and how these activities are constructed in daily life from a caregiver's perspective.

Method: This qualitative study included the views of 15 caregivers. Cognitive interviews were used based on the constructs of PEDI by semi-structured interviewing and expansive verbal probing. Data was analysed using Constant Comparative Analysis.

Results: The PEDI has potential to fit the Vietnamese context although over half of PEDI-items require adaptations. The findings reflect differences in performance of PEDI-items compared to the original PEDI and which factors impact caregiver's assistance. In general, there was a need for better comprehension of the child's (dis)abilities and potential among caregivers. The interviews lead to raised awareness of caregivers about functional skills and assistance given.

Conclusion: The study shows that the PEDI can be relevant for use in a Vietnamese context. At the same time the revealed differences compared to the original PEDI implies a further need to adapt PEDI-items for use in Vietnam by health professionals.