

Integrated Educational and Pediatric Healthcare Approaches Enhancing Adolescent Coping Skills and Emotional Stability During Social Challenges

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Abstract

Adolescents are often faced with problems in the social, academic, and emotional realms that can impact their coping skills and emotional state. However, there are also few successful initiatives to create an effective partnership between educational institutions and pediatric health care services, and the need for mental health support is increasing. The present study examined the effect of an integrated educational and pediatric health care intervention for promoting coping and emotional functioning in high school students. A cross sectional quantitative study was conducted using stratified random sampling among 200 Adolescents (12-18 years). Standardized measures of coping, emotional stability, educational support, and health care service utilization were used to gather data. Results of the statistical analysis showed 42% of the participants had high scores in educational support and 48% had moderate to high coping skill scores. The integrated support and coping ability had significant positive correlation with emotional stability ($r = 0.62$) and psychological well-being ($r = 0.71$) ($p < 0.01$), and emotional stability had significant positive correlation with psychological well-being ($r = 0.58$) ($p < 0.01$). The results suggest that comprehensive education and pediatrics support interventions have a significant impact on enhancing coping capabilities and emotional stability of socially at-risk adolescents.

Keywords: Adolescents, Coping Skills, Emotional Stability, Pediatric Healthcare, Educational Support, Psychological Well-Being.

Introduction

Adolescence is a critical life period with significant physical, emotional, cognitive and social growth that has an impact on health and well-being throughout the life span. At this time, youths are facing many social difficulties, such as school stress, peer pressure, family expectations, content in social media and changes in society's needs. All of this can impair the functioning of the mind, leading to stress, anxiety, emotional instability and poor coping skills. It has, therefore, become increasingly critical to teach young people effective coping skills and emotional resilience to facilitate a healthy life and mental health during adolescence.

The significance of school-based counseling, health educational programs, interventions for resilience and promoting mental health, parental support and pediatric health care services to promote adolescent mental health has been highlighted in previous studies. Psychological development takes place in the educational environment, which offers counselling services, teacher support and peer-support services. In the same manner, pediatric health care providers can play a role in mental health screening in children, counseling, preventive treatment, as well as family-centered intervention. Findings have shown that the influence of educational and healthcare support systems is positive on adolescent coping and emotional outcomes.

The studies, however, focus mainly on educational and healthcare interventions separately, and few studies discuss an integrated collaborative approach. Poor coordination between schools, and pediatric healthcare providers, can result in fragmented intervention systems and a lack of effectiveness. Hence, a need for overall comprehensive frameworks that integrate both the educational and healthcare aspects to support the psychosocial issues that arise among adolescents. This study is aimed at evaluating the overall adolescent coping and emotional stability, as well as determining the efficacy of integrated intervention approaches and understanding the role of educational support systems and pediatric healthcare support systems for adolescents. The suggested framework will allow for multi-level support for the school, pediatric health care system, involvement of parents and community members, and help build coping skills and emotional health. This study has the value of developing an integrated support model and studying key relationships among variables and giving evidence-based recommendations to improve adolescent mental health outcomes.

2. Literature Review

Adolescence is a unique developmental period that involves significant physical, psychological, cognitive and social growth and change that have a lasting impact on health and well-being. Adolescents experience many stressors during this time, such as: academic stress, peer influence, family stress, and increased access to digital technologies. All of these can have negative impacts on mental health, causing anxiety, depression, emotional stress, and feelings of poor mental health. Therefore, adolescent mental health have emerged as a serious worldwide public health issue that demands appropriate preventive and supportive interventions [2], [7].

Coping skills are a necessary set of protective mechanisms used by adolescents to deal with stressful situations and adjust to the changes in the environment. Problem-focused coping allows people to deal directly with the stressor by planning and problem-solving, and emotion-focused involves self-reflection and seeking social support. Emotional competence, resilience and adaptive coping have been found to play significant role in psychological outcome and less depressive symptoms among adolescents [12]. In addition, emotion regulation is important in fostering psychological wellness and emotional stability in stressful situations [11].

School counselling and mentoring, teacher engagement and planned guidance programs are important to supporting the mental health of adolescents. There have been studies that show when schools include the use of school counselors, students have greater resilience, self-esteem, and overall well-being [5]. Likewise, educational support platforms can contribute to the educational process and create further resources for personal development [3]. Pediatric health services also play a role in mental health screening, mental health counseling, early detection, and health promotion [1, 6, 10]. Promoting and preventing mental health are gaining importance in the provision of care for adolescents [4,8].

In spite of these developments, there's still not much cooperation between educational institutions and health care providers. Current systems are focused mostly on assessment and monitoring, and have not been developed to include integrated intervention models [14]. There has been limited use of collaborative healthcare structures to enhance coordination of services and information sharing, even though, there are some benefits of such models [9,13] to enhancing the coordination of services and information sharing in adolescent educational-healthcare partnerships. Thus, holistic integrated strategies are required for improving coping strategies, emotional stability and long-term psychological health among adolescents [5],[7], [8].

3. Methodology

3.1 Research Design

This study used quantitative cross sectional type research design to explore the effectiveness of integrated educational and pediatric healthcare in improving coping and emotional stability in adolescents in the face of social difficulties. The cross-sectional design allowed for measurement of relationships between education support, healthcare services, coping, emotional stability, and psychological well-being at a single time after baseline. A "whole-host/whole-child

approach" to assessing adolescent health was used to examine the role of collaborative interventions between educational institutions and pediatric health care providers in improving adolescent mental health.

3.2 Study Population

A total of 200 adolescents ages 12–18 were recruited from schools and community-based youth development programs. The participants were selected through stratified random sampling in order to obtain the variety in age, sex and educational qualifications. Adolescence is a period of rapid change in emotional, social and cognitive development, and is an ideal time to explore the effects of coping with change and emotional stability. The number of 200 participants was adequate for a statistical analysis to show the clear picture of the study objectives.

Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

Criteria Type	Description
Inclusion	Adolescents aged 12–18 years
Inclusion	Enrolled in schools or community programs
Inclusion	Provided informed consent
Exclusion	Diagnosed severe psychiatric disorders
Exclusion	Incomplete questionnaire responses
Exclusion	Unwilling to participate

The selection criteria for participants are shown in table 1. The inclusion criteria provided for respondents to be representative of the target population and the exclusion criteria helped reduce potential bias and increase reliability of data collected.

3.3 Data Collection Tools

Questionnaires and supporting records were used to collect data, all of which were previously validated. The Adolescent Coping Scale (ACS) was used to assess coping behaviors and stress-management strategies. Emotional control, resistance and psychological adaptation were assessed using the Emotional Stability Scale (ESS). The evaluation of educational support was conducted based on the School Support Assessment Questionnaire including teacher involvement, counseling services and health education programs. Healthcare support was evaluated using a Pediatric Healthcare Service Evaluation (PHS) questionnaire that explored screenings for mental health, counseling services, and guidance services for families.

Parent and teacher assessment forms, counseling forms, and academic performance records were used to gather additional information to give a comprehensive understanding of adolescent well-being and support networks.

Table 2. Variables and Measurement Tools

Variable	Instrument	Scale Type
Coping Skills	Adolescent Coping Scale (ACS)	Likert Scale
Emotional Stability	Emotional Stability Scale (ESS)	Likert Scale
Educational Support	School Support Assessment Questionnaire	Likert Scale
Healthcare Support	Pediatric Healthcare Service Evaluation Questionnaire	Likert Scale

Table 2 summarizes the major variables investigated here and the instruments employed to measure the variables. Standardized measurement tools helped to ensure a more consistent, valid, and reliable measurement process.

Data collected were analysed by descriptive statistics, correlation analysis and regression analysis. Demographic data and the distributions of the variables were summarized with descriptive statistics. Associations between educational support, healthcare support, coping skills and emotional stability were analysed with the aid of correlation analysis. General linear models were employed to conduct regression analyses, assessing the predictive relation between educational and health care support and coping skills or emotional well-being among adolescents. A 95% confidence level was used to determine statistical significance.

3.4 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework for this study depicts the relationship between educational support systems, pediatric health care services, coping abilities, emotional stability, and psychological well-being in adolescents.

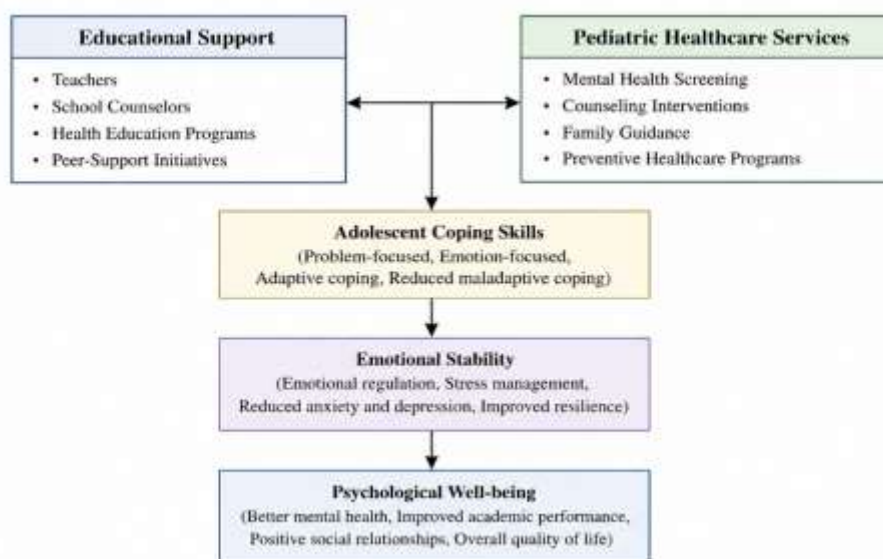


Figure 1. Integrated Educational and Pediatric Healthcare Model

This study proposes a combined framework (see figure 1). The model acknowledges that education-based interventions that happen through the teacher, school counselor, health education programs, and pediatric health care interventions (mental health screening, counseling interventions, and family guidance) can act in a synergistic and synergistic and occur together. All of these supports help adolescents to develop effective coping strategies they can apply when they have to deal with social, academic and emotional issues. Better coping skills in turn promote emotional stability through greater emotional regulation and resilience. This heightened emotional stability leads to better psychological health, less stress and better developmental results. Therefore, the framework offers a broad foundation for assessing the effectiveness of integrated pediatrics and education services that help adolescents' mental health flourish and overall health thrive.

4. Results

The study findings shed light on the positive impact of using an integrated educational and pediatric care strategies to improve coping and emotional functioning among adolescents facing social stress. The characteristics of the participants and the main study variables were summarized by descriptive statistics, and correlation analysis was used to examine relationships between educational support, healthcare support, coping skills, emotional stability and

psychological well-being. The results suggest that collaborative support systems can be key to positive mental health outcomes for youth.

Table 3. Participant Demographics

Variable	Category	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Age	12–14 Years	78	39
	15–16 Years	72	36
	17–18 Years	50	25
Gender	Male	98	49
	Female	102	51
School Type	Public School	118	59
	Private School	82	41
Residence	Urban	124	62
	Rural	76	38

The demographic characteristics of the participants are given in Table 3. The majority were in the age group of 12 - 16 years, 75% of respondents. There were 51% females and 49% males in the study population. The majority of adolescents were from public schools (59%) and living in urban areas (62%), a diverse mix of many school and residential backgrounds.

Table 4. Distribution of Study Variables

Variable	Low (%)	Moderate (%)	High (%)
Educational Support	19	39	42
Coping Skills	17	35	48
Emotional Stability	15	38	47

Table 4 shows the educational supports, coping strategies, and emotional well-being of adolescents. 42% of the participants reported high level of educational support, meaning that many adolescents received guidance, counseling, and health education from teachers. Likewise, 48% showed high coping skills which imply presence of effective skill of stress-management and problem-solving. A high emotional stability was seen in 47% of the participants, which showed positive emotional regulation and emotional resistance. The results indicate that educational support could play a role in the development of adaptive coping and emotional functioning.

Table 5. Correlation Analysis

Variable Pair	Correlation (r)
Educational Support vs Coping Skills	+0.58
Healthcare Support vs Emotional Stability	+0.62
Coping Skills vs Emotional Stability	+0.65
Integrated Support vs Psychological Well-being	+0.71

The table 5 shows the relationship between major variables of the study. Coping skills were moderately positively correlated with educational support ($r = 0.58$), suggesting that the higher the adolescent's educational support was, the more likely they were to develop coping skills. Emotional stability showed a positive correlation with healthcare support ($r = 0.62$); this finding underscores the need for the screening and counseling of children for mental health issues and guidance for families. Coping skills were significantly correlated with emotional stability, $r = 0.65$, indicating that the more an adolescent could cope, the more likely they were to be emotionally stable and stress management skills. The integrated support was most strongly associated with psychological well being ($r = 0.71$), highlighting the effectiveness of integrated educational and healthcare support.

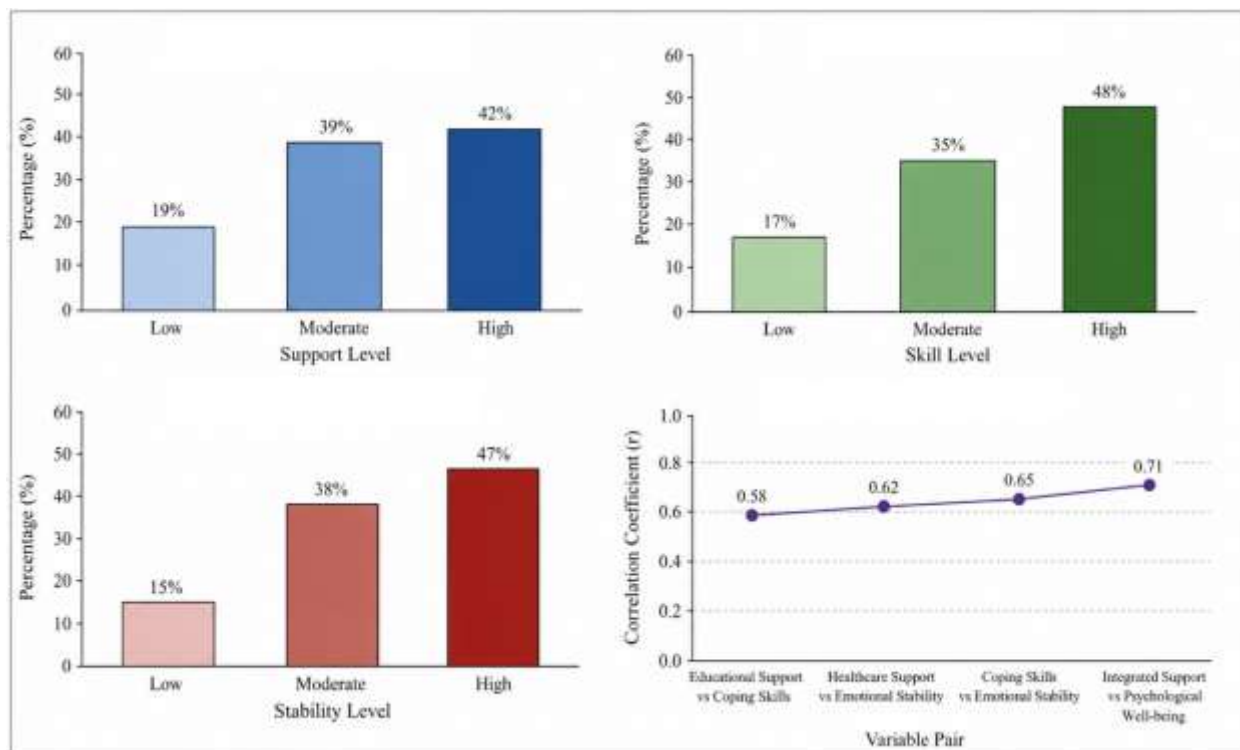


Figure 2. Adolescent Well-Being Analysis: (a) Educational Support, (b) Coping Skills, (c) Emotional Stability, and (d) Variable Correlations.

The key findings from the study on education support, coping skills, emotional stability and relationships between the studied variables are presented in Figure 2. The highest level of supports in education was reported by the youngest group of participants (25–29 years), as seen in Figures 2(a) and 2(b). In figure 2(b) almost half of the adolescents demonstrated high coping skills, figure 2(c) shows a similar distribution for levels of emotional stability. Additionally,

Figure 2(d) shows positive correlations between the educational support, the healthcare support, coping skills, emotional stability and psychological well-being. In general, the trends shown in figure 2 confirm the statistical data shown in table 5, and reinforce the positive effects of integrated educational and pediatric healthcare support on adolescent well-being.

The overall results revealed that the integrated educational-pediatric healthcare strategies are greatly responsible for the development of coping and emotional stability of adolescents. Those with higher levels of education and healthcare support showed greater psychological positive outcomes, such as better management of stress, emotional regulation, and well-being, in teenagers. The results found here highlights the need for joint intervention strategies (schools, health, family, community organizations). These integrated supports can help increase the resilience of adolescents and offer a means of responding to social and emotional difficulties in this important developmental period.

5. Discussion

This study's results suggest that EECH positively contributes to coping skills and emotional stability amongst adolescents. Educational support, such as school counseling, teacher support and health education, was correlated with better coping skills which helps adolescent overcome social and academic problems. Positive emotional development and resilience also were supported by teacher involvement and supportive school environments.

The pediatric healthcare services also contributed a lot to emotional stability. The mental health screening, counselling, and family guidance programs improved the adolescent's emotional and psychological health and well-being, while minimizing stress and enabling emotion regulation. There is a positive correlation between health care support and emotional stability, which emphasizes the significance of prevention in mental health services for adolescents.

The study also shows that there is a greater benefit to the integrated supporting systems than isolated interventions. Working across schools, health systems, families and communities improves coping skills, emotional regulation, and resilience. The results highlight the urgent need for effective coordinated adolescent mental health initiatives for healthy development and life-long mental health outcomes.

6. Conclusion and Future Scope

The current study shows that integrated educational and pediatric healthcare methods are a significant factor in the improvement of the coping abilities and emotional balance of adolescents in situations of social challenge. The results indicated that there were positive correlations among educational support, healthcare services, coping skills, emotional regulation and psychological well-being. Psychology services within the school setting (such as counselling, teacher guidance and health education), were identified as helping to develop adaptive coping strategies, and healthcare services within primary care (counselling, mental health screening and family guidance) were identified as helping to build resilience and emotional stability. The findings also suggest that a multi-sector, school-based, family-centered approach to addressing the mental health of adolescents is more effective than a single-sector, school-based approach. Therefore, integrated support systems can be used as good frameworks for fostering healthy psychological development and hence enhance the well-being of the adolescents.

Given the diversity of the children in this study, future research should seek to explore the long-term impacts of combined educational and health care interventions on the mental health of adolescents over time. The use of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence could also be considered to enable real-time mental health monitoring, early detection of potential risks, and customized treatment planning. School-healthcare digital intervention platforms are also being developed which would further enhance communication and coordination between educators, healthcare professionals, parents and adolescents. Also, school-based and community-wide adolescent wellness programs that engage schools, health organizations, and community groups can be a source for larger support networks and lead to lasting improvements in the general well-being, emotional stability, and coping skills of adolescents.

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