

## **SUMMARY**

### **CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCE OF EPILEPSY : A CASE STUDY**

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Epilepsy is a disorder of the Central Nervous System that is characterised by periodic loss of consciousness. It occurs with or without convulsions. Epileptic seizures which occur without convulsions are referred to as absences. Epilepsy develops as a result of various causal factors.

This study focuses on the way in which learners living with epilepsy, who attend mainstream schools in the rural areas of the Limpopo Province, experience epilepsy. The results of the study indicate that the needs of learners with epilepsy are not well-catered for in mainstream schools. They often experience fear, anxiety, humiliation, ostracisation, name-calling, scape-goating, blaming and suspicion.

Recommendations were made regarding the measures which should be taken to address the needs of rural children living with epilepsy. These recommendations could be used by teachers and the Department of Education.

## KEY WORDS

|            |             |              |         |
|------------|-------------|--------------|---------|
| absence    | convulsions | focus group  | seizure |
| afebrile   | epilepsy    | paroxysmal   |         |
| case study | febrile     | psychosocial |         |

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**DECLARATION**

I declare that **CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCE OF EPILEPSY : A CASE STUDY** is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

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Signature

C. V. BABANE

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Date

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all who made this study possible.

- My Heavenly Father, the Author of the Universe, for being my Creator and Shepherd, and for granting me courage and resilience throughout my life.
  
- My supervisor, Prof. E Wiechers, for her constant understanding, support and guidance throughout this study.
  
- The Regional Manager and all staff of the regional office, Region 5, for providing me with the opportunity to serve internship and conduct research in this region.
  
- My colleagues at the Ritavi District Office, for their support throughout this study.
  
- The principals, educators , learners and parents of the following schools: Banana, Gavaza and Sebone, for their willingness to participate in this study.
  
- My parents, brothers and sister, for being my strong support system from which I can venture and become the best of what I can become.
  
- My friends Elmary Buis, Dorah Mahlahle, Phindi Khosa, Yvonne Maluleke and Violet Mathye, for being there for me. That's what friends are for.

- Garish and Dolly Mohlaba, for their support, kind-heartedness and thoughtfulness.
- Jan Chabalala, for working unflaggingly to edit this study.

This dissertation is dedicated to ...

My beloved daughter, Minkateko Samantha.