

Kukuruza H.,

Doctor of Psychology,

*Leading Research Scientist at the Group of Psychological Development,
State Institution "Institute of Child and Adolescents Health Care
of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine"*

Kyrylova O.,

Candidate of Psychology,

*Senior Research Scientist at the Group of Psychological Development,
State Institution "Institute of Child and Adolescents Health Care
of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine"*

Tslyiuryk S.,

*Research Fellow at the Group of Psychological Development,
State Institution "Institute of Child and Adolescents Health Care
of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine"*

EVALUATING QUALITY OF LIFE OF FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME IN EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

The article presents the results of studying quality of life of the families raising children of an early age with Down's syndrome, which received assistance according to the early intervention programs. Investigation of the family quality of life is an innovative approach in Ukraine, as traditionally a research of the life quality of an individual patient is carried out. Parameters of family interaction, education, emotional state, physical and material well-being, as well as support connected with disability were identified using the FQOL Survey (Family Quality of Life Survey). The study involved 58 parents (32 mothers and 26 fathers), bringing up children aged from 2 months to 3.5 years with Down's syndrome. The families visited early intervention programs within a year, where they received interdisciplinary care of psychologists, speech therapists, and physical rehabilitation specialists. Early intervention programs

were focused on the child development and improvement of the child-parent interaction quality. It has been shown that the structure of parameters that determine the quality of family life does not change in the dynamics of visiting the early intervention programs. The highest values are measured by the scales of family interaction and child-rearing, and the lowest - by means of the scales of emotional well-being. However, a significant improvement of the quality of family interactions, education, emotional well-being and support, associated with disability, has been defined after visiting the early intervention programs. The significant positive correlations between the studied parameters have also been established in the study. The results demonstrate the effectiveness of early intervention programs for the families with children of an early age with Down's syndrome receiving the early intervention services.