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THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE AND PERSONAL-SOCIAL SKILLS IN NURSERIES / PRE-SCHOOLS: a study of cohort*)

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Introduction and justification: the child has to have good caring and educational conditions if its development is to be adequate. This means that institutions for child education (nurseries and pre-schools) must also be involved in the supervision and advancement to the development. The situation of children looked after in nurseries / pre-schools is especially important since they stay there during most of their first childhood: 12.500 h. over a 5-year period considering an estimated 50 weeks of 50 hours each. Objective: Evaluate annually the development of the language and personal-social areas of the children attending nurseries with good-quality attendance. Methodology: study of cohort to be undertaken in three nurseries located in the city of São Paulo, in which the same assessment had been made in 2001. The group had been formed with 33 children from 0 to 36 months who fulfilled the general requirements of having a known gestational age, with no congenital malformations, nor being foreigners (due to language evaluation). For the children's' evaluation, the Denver II test was and will continue being used. This instrument is being considered adequate for the identification of even the slightest development problems. The data analysis shall be made by non-parametrical methods Ethical Care: the project has already been analyzed and approved by the EEUSP Ethics Committee and written agreement obtained from the nurseries in which the research shall be made. Schedule: The foreseen deadline for termination is July 2003.

KEYWORDS: Child day care centers. Child rearing. Child development. Pediatric nursing.

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^{*} This project is the continuation of another one was executed from February 2001 to January 2002 through financing by FAPESP (scientific grant initiation number 00/11890-7)

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