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TITLE

THE EFFECT OF PERCEIVED SOCIAL SUPPORT AND MARITAL STATUS ON HOPE IN WOMEN WITH INFERTILITY

AUTHOR/S

Kermanizadeh ? (IR) [1], Kraskian Mujembari A (IR) [2], Omani Samani R (IR) [3], Ezabadi Z (IR) [4], Rahimi Forooshani (IR) [5], Alizadeh A (IR) [6]

ABSTRACT

Context: Infertility is one of the most important life crises that lead to psychological problems and emotional stresses. Perceived social support and marital status can affect to increase the hope of infertile women.

Objective: The aim of this study was to investigate the relationship between perceived social support and marital status with the degree of having hope in women with infertility issue.

Methods: The population of this study involved of all women with infertility problems. Schneider hope questionnaire, questionnaire of the Perceived Social Support by Fleming and Inventory of Marital Status by Glvmborg-right were used to measure the psychological factors. The associations between quantitative variables were calculated using multivariate regression and Pearson or Spearman's correlations. The data was analyzed using R version 3.0.0.

Patients: The sample included 371 infertile women that participated at Royan Institute for reproductive biomedicine in Tehran-Iran. The Simple random sampling was used to select the cases.

Results: Perceived social support and marital status directly had the significant effect on the hope of the women. In other words, when the score of perceived social support and marital status increased one unit, the expected score of hope in infertile women increased 0.45 and .18 unit, respectively (both p values<0.001). The marital status of couples inversely related to the duration of infertility ($r = -0.135$, $P = 0.008$).

Conclusions: The hope as an important factor in the continuity of treatment of infertility was influenced by perceived social support and marital status. The inverse correlation between the marital status of couples and duration of infertility showed that the couples should have psychological counseling during their treatment.

Keywords: hope, perceived social support, marital status.

INSTITUTE

[1] Department of jeneral Psychology, Karaj Branch, Islamic Azad University, Karaj, Iran, [2] Department of Psychology, Karaj Branch, Islamic Azad University, Karaj, Iran, [3] Department of Epidemiology and Reproductive Health, Reproductive Epidemiology Research Center, Royan Institute for Reproductive Biomedicine, ACECR, Tehran, Iran., [4] Department of Epidemiology and Reproductive Health, Reproductive Epidemiology Research Center, Royan Institute for Reproductive Biomedicine, ACECR, Tehran, Iran., [5] Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran-IRAN., [6] Department of Epidemiology and Reproductive Health, Reproductive Epidemiology Research Center, Royan Institute for Reproductive Biomedicine, ACECR, Tehran, Iran.