

9th Yazd International Congress and Student Award on Reproductive Medicine with 4th Congress of Reproductive Genetics

Oral Presentations

O-11

Testing the vulnerability-stress-adaptation model of marriage in infertile couples

Chehreh R¹, Ozgoli G², Abolmaali K³, Nasiri M⁴.

1.School of Midwifery and Nursing, Ilam University of Medical Sciences, Ilam, Iran.

2.Midwifery and Reproductive Health Department, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

3.Psychology Department, Islamic Azad University of Roudehen, Tehran, Iran.

4.School of Nursing and Midwifery, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

Email: g.ozgoli@gmail.com

Background: In all cultures, achieving parental role is a fundamental condition of individual perfection and sexual identity. Inability to have a child is stressful and causes disturbances in marital quality, satisfaction and stability of couples.

Objective: The purpose of this study was to test the vulnerability-stress model of marriage in infertile couples referring infertility centers in Tehran.

Materials and Methods: The present cross-sectional study was performed in two stages on 200 infertile couples (400 individual) in infertility centers in Tehran. In the first step, based on the questionnaires and the relationships between endogenous, exogenous variables; a conceptual model was designed. The

predictor variables such as personality trait, infertility related stress and coping strategies, quality of life as a mediator variable and marital stability as an outcome variable, were tested. Data were collected using Norton Questionnaire, ENRICH marital satisfaction, Neo personality traits, Newton fertility problem inventory, marital instability scale and Rahim's conflict resolution strategies questionnaire. The conceptual model was tested after evaluating the data and analyzing with LISREL software.

Results: Marital satisfaction and marital quality affected marital stability in both men and women directly, while the infertility-related stress affected marital stability only in women indirectly. In men, coping strategies directly affected marital quality. Also, in both men and women, marital satisfaction directly affected the quality of marriage. In women, coping strategies directly affected marital satisfaction. Infertility-related stress in men and women directly affected marital satisfaction. Also, after examining the fit indices, the conceptual model tested in infertile couples had a good fit.

Conclusion: Infertility-related stress, coping strategies, and marital satisfaction; are the important predictors of marital quality. Also, marital satisfaction and marital quality are the predictors of marital stability.

Key words: Marriage, Couples, Infertility, Model.