

conflict; nevertheless has considerably increased the staff's job satisfaction.

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The prevalence and experience of harassment of people with mental health problems living in the community in Iran

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Background: There have been concerns about people with mental health problems living in the community in Iran experiencing harassment.

Aims: This study measures the prevalence and nature of harassment experienced by people with mental health problems and compares them with the general population.

Methods: Face to face interviews were conducted by trained interviewers to ascertain experiences of harassment. Interviews were carried out with 112 people with mental health problems and with 104 people from the general population.

Results: Sixty-one per cent of people with mental health problems reported experiencing harassment, nearly ten times more frequently than those in the general population (7%). Among the people with mental health problems, being female, having higher levels of education, or being unemployed were significantly associated with experiencing harassment. The harassment commonly involved verbal abuse, often made reference to individuals' mental health problems and was primarily committed by family members.

Conclusions: A significantly higher prevalence of harassment was reported among individuals with mental health problems living in the community than in the general population sample. Mental health professionals should proactively ask their service users about their experiences in the home, and educational interventions are recommended, particularly for families of people with mental health problems.

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Keywords: Harassment, mental health, community

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Psychiatric comorbidity in dermatologic patients in Iran

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Introduction: There is a high prevalence of psychiatric disorders in dermatological patients.

Aim: To evaluate the prevalence of this problem and to find a set of variables associated with the presence of psychiatric disorder.

Method: 414 adults attending the outpatient clinics of a dermatological hospital or in inpatient ward were given a questionnaire comprising the DLQI and the 28-item General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-28).

Results: In total, 414 questionnaires were given at admission. Of these Using a stringent cut-off threshold (5<) for psychiatric case identification with the GHQ-28, the overall prevalence of psychiatric

morbidity was 51.3%. We found a higher prevalence of psychiatric disorders in married and low educated patients. Higher score of GHQ-28 accompanied with higher score of DLQI. High prevalence rates were observed among patients with vitiligo, psoriasis, pemphigus. There was not significant difference in psychiatric co-morbidity between men and women.

Conclusion: Our study has shown the situation that is actually faced by dermatologists in their everyday practice, where they are in an especial situation to detect psychiatric morbidity and to take appropriate measures. The GHQ-28, being easy for patients to compile and for physicians or nurses to score, may be a practical instrument to increase identification of patients with prominent psychological distress or formal psychiatric disorder in order to provide more appropriate intervention.

Key Words: GHQ-28, prevalence, psychiatric disorders, psychological distress, quality of life, skin disease

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Defining the dissociative disorders and childhood trauma among outpatients at Ege university, neurology headache unit

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Background: Dissociative disorders have comorbidity with conversion disorder, borderline personality disorder, depression and somatization disorder. Though dissociative disorders and medical illness comorbidity is not investigated enough, epilepsy, chronic pain such as headache, pelvic pain and backpain are frequent with childhood trauma and dissociative disorders. Few studies indicated that headache is more frequent in people with childhood trauma but the relationship between dissociative experiences and headache, childhood and other traumas is not investigated enough.

Objective: The aim of this study is to investigate the frequency of childhood trauma and dissociative disorders and the relationship between them among patients with chronic headache.

Method: DIS-Q, SDQ, DES and Childhood Trauma Questionnaire is given to 90 patients presented to Neurology headache unit. Patients scored DIS-Q>2 or SDQ>30 or DES>25 are called for another session to apply DDIS and SCID-D.

Results: 46,7% of the patients had comorbid psychiatric illness. In this population the percentage of childhood trauma was 58,9% (34,4% neglect; 24,7% physical abuse; 22,6% emotional abuse; 10,8% sexual abuse). 21,1% of the patients had at least one suicide attempt; 17,8% had self destructive behaviour. DDIS was applied to 33 and SCID-D to 19 of 90 patients. Any type of dissociative disorders is diagnosed in 31 of 33 patients evaluated with DDIS.

Conclusion: We found high prevalence of childhood trauma and dissociative disorders among patients who present to neurology headache unit. These findings may indicate that childhood trauma can play a role in the development of dissociative disorders and somatic symptoms such as headache.

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Social and psychological aspects of haemophilia

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