

P01-292 - TREATMENT SEEKING BEHAVIOUR AMONG CASES REPORTED FOR PSYCHIATRIC CONSULTATION WITH CO-MORBID INFERTILITY

M.I. Afridi¹, N. Iman², H. Khan³

¹Head, Dept. of Psychiatry, Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC), Karachi, ²Dept. of Medicine, Khyber Medical College, Peshawar, Pakistan, ³Dept. of Medicine, Rehman Medical Institute, Peshawar, Pakistan

Objective: To assess treatment-seeking behaviour in psychiatric patients with co-morbid infertility.

METHODology: This hospital-based prospective study was conducted on out-patients, consulted at NMI (Neuro-spinal & medical Institute), Karachi. All consecutive and consenting cases were interviewed using a semi-structured proforma. Results were tabulated and analyzed through SPSS Version 11.0. Fisher Exact test/Chi-square test were used to compare variables.

Results: One hundred five cases (62.85% Men and 37.14% Women) that fulfilled the criteria of infertility were evaluated. More than half (51.42%) of the cases had sought alternative type of treatment including treatment from Faith Healers (19.04%), *Hakeems* (Eastern/Indigenous Practitioners=18.09%) and Homoeopaths(14.28%). The rest of the cases had history of multiple consultations with Allopathic medical practitioners.

Conclusion: The impact of Infertility is serious especially in the east making a person vulnerable to seek help from the various available source of treatment particularly traditional/ alternative mode.

KEY WORDS: Infertility, Treatment seeking behavior, Alternative treatment, Faith healers, Hakeems, Homoeopaths.