

Evaluation of Some Psychological Factors in Psoriatic PatientsY. Fakour¹, P. Nourmohammadpour², F. Gholamali², A. Ehsani², M. Momtaz Bakhsh³, N. Khosrovanmehr⁴, L. Mokhtari⁵, F. Ramazan Ghorbani⁶

¹health and technology deputy, ministry of health of iran, tehran, Iran ; ²dermatology, tehran university of medical sciences, tehran, Iran ; ³welfare general office, social security organization, tehran, Iran ; ⁴emam hosein hospital, shahid beheshty university of medical sciences, tehran, Iran ; ⁵consultation office, education general office of tehran, tehran, Iran ; ⁶information office, deputy of health technology ministry of health, tehran, Iran

Background: Psoriasis is a disease which may have direct impact on the psychological and social aspects, particularly due to its visibility. To date, we are unaware of any study showing relationship between psoriasis and psychological parameters such as psychological vulnerability and coping strategies. **Objective:** to evaluate the effects of psoriasis on some psychological parameters in an Iranian population.

Methods: Patients having histopathologically confirmed psoriasis for at least 6 months attending the Clinic of Razi Hospital and evaluated by PASI, CISS, IPQ-R

Results: There were 101 females and 99 males with the mean age of 43.2 (± 16.32). The mean PASI Score was 6.58 ± 6.04 . Diffuse skin involvement was the commonest form of disease (133 patients, 66.5%). the highest score for Illness perception belongs to those with genitalia involvement (185.2, worst illness perception) and the lowest score for Illness perception belong to those with nail involvement (168.2). Consistently, the lowest score of facing with the problems (CISS: approach strategy to disease) belongs to those with hand involvement (50.5) whereas the highest score belongs to those with genitalia involvement (60.4). There was significant correlation between psychological vulnerability vs. Illness perception score as well as psychological vulnerability vs. coping strategies score. Surprisingly, PASI score had insignificant relationship with illness perception, coping strategies or psychological vulnerability score.

Conclusion: PASI score as a representing factor of skin involvement has limited role in predicting effect of psoriasis on mental status and illness perception of psoriatic patients. Psychological vulnerability of patients is the main predicting factor of illness perception and coping strategies

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