

1 **Perfectionism Among Young Female Competitive Irish Dancers:**

2 **Prevalence and Relationship with Injury Responses**

3

4 **Abstract**

5 The present study investigated the prevalence of perfectionism among young competitive Irish
6 dancers and examined the relationships between three different types of perfectionistic
7 tendencies and coping strategies utilised when experiencing injury. Sixty-eight female dancers
8 ($M_{\text{age}} = 14 \pm 2.3$ years) completed the Child-Adolescent Perfectionism Scale and the Ways of
9 Coping Questionnaire, alongside a record of injuries incurred during their championship
10 careers. Participants reported 189 injuries, mostly involving lower extremities. Seventy-nine
11 percent of dancers reported perfectionistic tendencies (mixed perfectionism 40%, pure self-
12 oriented perfectionism 29%, pure socially prescribed perfectionism 10%), and most frequently
13 adopted planful problem-solving, seeking social support, distancing, and self-controlling
14 strategies to cope with injury. Perfectionism and the utilisation of two coping strategies were
15 found to be significantly ($p = .03$) related; planful problem-solving was used typically ‘quite a
16 bit or a great deal’ by the mixed perfectionism group, but only ‘somewhat’ by the non-
17 perfectionism group, whereas confrontive coping was typically not used by the non-
18 perfectionism group, but was used ‘somewhat’ by the mixed perfectionism group. Given the
19 high frequency and intensity of perfectionism and the simultaneous employment of problem-
20 and emotion-focused strategies when coping with injuries, it is suggested that practitioners
21 acknowledge such tendencies when supporting their athletes’ in order to reduce the likely
22 negative psychological impact.

23

24 **Introduction**

25 Irish dance is a sport which has become increasingly competitive around the world and is
26 characterised by specific rapid, complicated foot and leg movements^{1,2,3} referred to as leaps,
27 rocks, tipping, cutting, kicks, batters, and heel and toe drops.⁴ Such actions are performed with
28 the upper body held erect, with the head up and eyes facing forwards, and the arms held straight
29 and tightly by the individual's side.^{5,6} As a whole, the goal is for dancers to demonstrate the
30 aesthetic qualities of lightness of body weight and neatness of footwork.^{1,5,7}

31 A central focus for the majority of Irish dancers is to be competitive, which encourages
32 individuals to drive for perfection and success in the dance form.⁷ Typically, an Irish dancer
33 will advance from a 'beginner' to a 'championship dancer', and if a win is achieved in a
34 preliminary championship, he/she will compete in 'open championships' taking place at
35 regional, national or international level, with the ultimate aim to qualify for the prestigious
36 World Championships.⁸ At championship level, there is a focus on demonstrating perfection
37 when performing traditional movements within newly updated choreography.⁹ To become a
38 successful Irish dancer, there is an emphasis on commitment to the dance form and the training
39 involved,⁷ and a desire to be flawless.^{2,10} Perhaps, unsurprisingly, it has been suggested that
40 individuals with perfectionistic tendencies are likely to be particularly attracted to Irish dance.⁹

41 Perfectionism is a multidimensional personality characteristic involving a
42 predisposition to aim for excessively high standards and for over-critical self-evaluations.¹¹
43 Flett and Hewitt¹² propose two different dimensions of perfectionism; Self-Oriented
44 Perfectionism (SOP; tendencies to strive and have exceedingly high personal standards) and
45 Socially Prescribed Perfectionism (SPP; tendencies to aim for extremely high standards that
46 they perceive significant others expect of them). Given that these two dimensions can co-exist
47 within all individuals, Gaudreau and Thompson¹³ developed the 2 x 2 model of perfectionism.
48 The model proposes that there are four sub-types of perfectionism; mixed perfectionism (high
49 SOP and high SPP), pure SOP (high SOP and low SPP), pure SPP (high SPP and low SOP),

50 and non-perfectionism (low SOP and low SPP). These sub-types highlight different ‘within-
51 person combinations’ and suggest that individuals can possess both dimensions of
52 perfectionism to varying degrees.¹⁴ While perfectionism has been observed in ballet and
53 contemporary dance, with 85% of elite-level dancers reporting perfectionistic tendencies, such
54 as ‘concern over mistakes’ and ‘perceived pressure’, it has yet to be documented whether such
55 tendencies also exist in Irish dance.¹⁵ This would provide a novel contribution to the existing
56 literature, as the context of Irish dance differs from that of ballet and contemporary dance, due
57 to the increased competitive nature and competition structures.^{1,7,8}

58 The competitive nature of Irish dance and the requirement to expose dancers to long
59 hours of intense, repetitive training involving frequent high impact loadings on the lower back
60 and lower limbs increases the likelihood of injury.^{9,16} The typical period of time spent away
61 from training and competition due to injury has been based on a ‘time-loss’ description; ‘minor’
62 injuries being resolved in less than seven days, ‘moderate’ injuries requiring between eight and
63 21 days, and ‘severe’ injuries more than 21 days.¹⁷ Studies have reported injury rates of
64 77%^{18,19} during Irish dancers’ competitive careers, causing up to 126 days being lost from
65 training and competition annually.¹⁹

66 Injury appears to be particularly problematic in elite female adolescent dancers,²⁰ for
67 whom a rate as high as 84% during one year of competitive dancing has been reported.²¹
68 Moreover, it has recently been estimated that around 22,000 dance-related injuries are seen in
69 hospital emergency departments throughout the Republic of Ireland annually in Irish dancers
70 aged 3 – 19 years-old, 79% of which are experienced by 11 – 19 year-olds.² In an attempt to
71 expediate the return to full-time training and competition, it is recognised that both the physical
72 recovery and the psychological stress associated with the experience of injury should be well
73 managed,²² particularly as young Irish dancers are encouraged to invest as much time as
74 possible in their training.²³ Indeed, to enable the identification of effective recovery strategies

75 (which may contribute positively to the experience of injury), it has been suggested that
76 research should explore the psychological coping processes adopted by injured young
77 dancers.²⁴

78 Coping, defined as “changing cognitive and behavioural efforts to manage specific
79 external and/or internal demands”,^{25(p141)} has been dichotomised as *emotion-focused* and
80 *problem-focused* styles. Whilst an individual will adopt a particular coping style, specific
81 coping strategies (behaviours or techniques which improve coping resources), will be utilised.²⁶
82 An emotion-focused style entails an individual employing strategies to manage their emotional
83 response (e.g. relaxation techniques and psychological distancing), whilst a problem-focused
84 coping style involves utilising strategies to direct their efforts at managing the environment
85 (e.g. goal setting and focusing on the task).²⁷ Research suggests that ballet dancers who adopt
86 problem-focused coping strategies experience reduced psychological distress and increased
87 perceptions of coping effectively whilst injured.^{28,29} However, Noh, Morris and Andersen³⁰
88 revealed that 65% of elite-level ballet dancers have limited coping resources and adopt coping
89 strategies, such as alcohol abuse and over-eating during stressful experiences. Therefore,
90 empowering dancers with effective coping strategies could facilitate their psychological
91 adjustment to the stressful experience of injury, improve their recovery time, and aid long-term
92 participation in competitive dancing.^{22,29,31}

93 Importantly, the presence of perfectionism has been found to influence the coping
94 process, with some evidence showing that individuals who possess perfectionistic tendencies
95 adopt ineffective coping strategies when dealing with injury.^{10,32} Hewitt and Flett³³ suggest that
96 perfectionistic tendencies intensify the negative psychological impact of stress. During the
97 experience of injury, individuals can report a sense of shock, helplessness and loss, whilst
98 perceiving the pursuit of their personal, or other imposed, standards to be blocked.^{33,34} Research
99 highlights that SOP is associated with higher utilisation of problem-focused coping strategies,

100 whilst individuals who possess SPP tendencies are more likely to adopt emotion-focused
101 coping strategies.^{35,36,37} However, as research has not established if Irish dancers possess
102 perfectionistic tendencies, information on how they cope with injury is also lacking. Therefore
103 the aims of this study were two-fold: (i) to investigate the prevalence of perfectionism among
104 young competitive Irish dancers, and (ii) to examine the relationships between the
105 perfectionistic tendencies of these dancers and the specific coping strategies they utilise when
106 experiencing injury.

107

108 **Materials and Methods**

109 *Participants*

110 Sixty-eight female Irish dancers from the North West of England (age = 14 ± 2.3 years)
111 volunteered to participate in this study. Dancers had 8.4 ± 2.3 years of competitive dance
112 experience, regularly trained for 9.0 ± 2.6 hours per week, and were selected based on the
113 criteria that they were (a) female (b) aged 10 – 18 years, (c) competitive at championship level,
114 and (d) had experienced injury during their championship careers. For the purpose of this study,
115 injury was defined as, ‘any experience of pain, caused by physical trauma or overuse, which
116 caused large amounts of discomfort’. Upon receiving ethical approval from the University’s
117 Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Life Sciences Research Ethics Committee, the lead
118 researcher recruited participants at Irish dance academies, and via attendance at a regional
119 competition taking place in the North West of England. Potential participants and (where
120 appropriate) their parents/guardians were provided with Participant Information Sheets before
121 informed consent was obtained from both parties. The data collection then took place at the
122 training facility of the individual, with each dancer being relatively isolated from others whilst
123 completing the questionnaires.

124 *Procedures*

125 In order to determine the experience of injury within the sample and to develop profiles of the
126 types and severity of injuries sustained through Irish dancing, the dancers were initially
127 required to indicate on a short questionnaire the injuries they had incurred through Irish dancing
128 during their championship careers, detailing the type of injury and time-out of
129 training/competition that ensued. The injuries were classified according to a ‘time-loss’
130 description based on three severity levels; minor (resolved in less than seven days), moderate
131 (required 8 – 21 days to resolve), and severe (required longer than 21 days to resolve).¹⁷

132 The participants then completed two inventories addressing their coping strategies and
133 levels of perfectionism. The inventories were provided in paper-form for the dancers and
134 completion of the two survey items took 30 – 40 minutes for each participant. The lead
135 researcher remained present to provide answers to any questions from the participants. The
136 *Ways of Coping Questionnaire* (WCQ)³⁸ is a 66-item inventory comprising eight sub-scales
137 which correspond to specific coping strategies; (1) Confrontive coping, six items; (2)
138 Distancing, six items; (3) Self-controlling, seven items; (4) Seeking social support, six items;
139 (5) Accepting responsibility, seven items; (6) Escape-avoidance, eight items; (7) Planful
140 problem-solving, six items; and (8) Positive reappraisal, seven items. The items include
141 statements such as, “I tried to keep my feelings to myself” and are scored on a 4-point Likert
142 scale ranging from 0 to 3. Each score represents the extent to which the individual utilises the
143 strategy during the stressful situation of injury: (0) ‘Not used’; (1) Used somewhat’; (2) ‘Used
144 quite a bit’; and (3) ‘Used a great deal’. The instructions were amended to ensure the dancers
145 focused on how they cope in response to injury (e.g. ‘When I am injured ... I make a plan of
146 action and follow it’). In previous studies, the WCQ has been adapted to focus on various
147 stressors that are relevant in performance domains, for example, performance slumps in
148 sport,³⁹ and health issues such as illness, injury and pain,⁴⁰ reinforcing the applicability of the
149 scale for assessing coping with injury in the performance domain of dance. Each item from the

150 sub-scales was then used to calculate an overall score for each specific coping strategy. For
151 example, the six items from the confrontive coping sub-scale could yield a maximum score of
152 18. The overall score for a coping strategy is then divided by the number of items within the
153 specific sub-scale to provide the average rating from the participant.³⁸ The WCQ has shown
154 satisfactory psychometric properties with moderate-to-high internal consistency ($\alpha = .56 -$
155 $.85$).^{41,42}

156 The *Child-Adolescent Perfectionism Scale (CAPS)*⁴³ is a 22-item inventory comprising
157 two sub-scales corresponding to specific dimensions of perfectionism; (1) SOP, 12 items; and
158 (2) SPP, 10 items. The items include statements such as, “I can’t stand to be less than perfect”
159 and are scored on a 5-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (“False”) to 5 (“Very true of me”). The
160 instructions were amended to ensure the dancers focused on their participation in dance (e.g.
161 ‘In dance ... I am always expected to do better than others’). This contextualised the
162 questionnaire to the specific Irish dance setting, ensuring that the measurement of
163 perfectionism was domain-specific.⁴⁴ Each item from the sub-scales was then used to calculate
164 an overall score for the specific dimension of perfectionism. For example, the 12 items from
165 the SOP sub-scale could yield a maximum score of 60. The CAPS has shown satisfactory
166 psychometric properties with high internal consistency ($\alpha = .70 - .84$)^{43,45} and has been utilised
167 in sporting contexts.^{44,46}

168

169 *Statistical analysis*

170 The dancers were classified into discrete groups based on the CAPS data, which indicated the
171 prevalence of perfectionistic tendencies; (1) mixed perfectionism – individuals with a SOP
172 score > 36 and a SPP score > 26 , (2) non-perfectionists – individuals with a SOP score < 36
173 and a SPP score < 26 , (3) pure SOP – individuals with a SOP score > 36 and a SPP score < 26 ,

174 and (4) pure SPP – individuals with a SOP score < 36 and a SPP score > 26.^{13,43} Additionally,
175 for each of the eight WCQ coping scales, the mean item score was recoded into three overall
176 categories; 0 - 0.99 (0, ‘Not used’), 1.0 – 1.99 (1, ‘Used somewhat’) and ≥ 2 (2, ‘Used quite a
177 bit or used a great deal’). Following this, contingency (frequency) tables and Pearson chi-
178 square tests were used to examine the relationships between the dancers’ coping strategies and
179 their distinct perfectionistic tendencies. The significance level was set at $p < 0.05$ and all
180 statistical analyses were performed using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS;
181 version 24.0, IBM Corp., Armonk, New York, USA).

182

183 **Results**

184 The first section outlines the prevalence of injury reported by the sample, classified by
185 severity. The second section highlights the perfectionistic tendencies of the dancers, and the
186 third section explores the coping strategies employed by the dancers.

187

188 *Injury prevalence*

189 One hundred and eighty-nine injuries were reported within the sample (median of 2 per dancer),
190 of which 86 (45%) were classified as minor, 39 (21%) as moderate, and 64 (34%) as severe.
191 Two-thirds of dancers cited multiple injuries, with 22% of these reporting five or more injuries
192 during their championship careers. The vast majority (95%) of injuries involved the lower
193 extremities and included broken ankles, torn ligaments, and dislocated knees. The most
194 frequently reported injuries were torn ligaments in the ankle or foot (57% of dancers) and stress
195 or complete fractures of the ankle (49%).

196

197 *Perfectionistic tendencies*

198 Fifty-four (79%) dancers indicated perfectionistic tendencies, of whom 27 (40%) were
199 positioned in the mixed perfectionism group, 20 (29%) in the pure SOP group, seven (10%) in
200 the pure SPP group, and 14 (21%) in the non-perfectionism group.

201

202 *Coping strategies*

203

Insert Table 1 here

204

205 Analysis revealed that the dancers utilised all three of the *problem-focused* strategies
206 ‘somewhat’, whilst they typically employed only two (distancing and self-controlling) of the
207 five *emotion-focused* strategies ‘somewhat’ (Table 1). Of these, planful problem-solving
208 responses were related to perfectionism group ($\chi^2 = 14.2, p = .03$, Table 2), with the rating of
209 ‘used quite a bit or used a great deal’ (‘2 or 3’) being most common (55.6%) within the mixed
210 perfectionism group, compared to ‘used somewhat’ (‘1’) within the non-perfectionism group
211 (50%). Confrontive coping and perfectionism were also related ($\chi^2 = 14.2, p = .03$), with the
212 rating of ‘not used’ (‘0’) being most common (78.6%) within the non-perfectionism group,
213 compared to ‘used somewhat’ (‘1’) within the mixed perfectionism group (66.7%). Whilst
214 seeking social support was unrelated to perfectionism ($p = .31$), there was the tendency (42.9%)
215 for those in the pure SPP group to use it less frequently than the other groups.

216

217

218

Insert Table 2 here

219 For the emotion-focused coping strategies, no significant ($p > .05$) associations were observed
220 with perfectionism (Table 3). The use of distancing ‘somewhat’ was most common within all
221 perfectionism groups, as was self-controlling, though notable was the tendency (42.9%) for
222 those in the non-perfectionism group to use the self-controlling strategy less frequently than

223 the other groups (11.1% – 35.0%). Likewise, the same (non-perfectionism) group tended not
224 to use accepting responsibility and positive reappraisal, though, again, there were no clear
225 relationships between these strategies (and escape avoidance) and perfectionism .
226

227 ***Insert Table 3 here***

228 **Discussion**

229 The purpose of this study was to investigate the prevalence of perfectionism among young
230 competitive Irish dancers and examine the relationship between perfectionistic tendencies and
231 the specific coping strategies utilised when experiencing injury. The overall occurrence of
232 ‘severe’ and multiple (mainly lower-limb) injuries reported by the current sample strengthens
233 the need for young dancers to employ adaptative coping strategies to enhance the recovery
234 process and reduce the associated psychological distress.²⁹ The injuries reported from the
235 current sample reinforce that the repetitive nature and high-impact movements during Irish
236 dancing increase the risk of lower-extremity injuries.^{9,21} Likewise, the frequent reporting of
237 multiple injuries supports findings by Noon et al.¹⁶ where 79.7% of Irish dancers were treated
238 for multiple injuries over a seven-year period. Moreover, this study has highlighted, for the
239 first time, the high prevalence of perfectionistic tendencies among young female Irish dancers
240 in the context of recovery from injury. This is perhaps not unexpected given the even higher
241 proportion (85%) observed among ballet and contemporary dancers,¹⁵ though in those cases
242 perfectionism was assessed alongside performance anxiety and competitive stress. The finding
243 does reinforce both the idea that dancers are constantly striving for perfection in their sporting
244 context,⁹ and the value of investigating the responses to injury when individuals are
245 characterised by specific perfectionistic tendencies.¹⁰ The findings of this study provide a novel
246 contribution to the literature as the context of Irish dance differs from that of other dance forms
247 due to the competitive nature.^{1,9} Whilst studies have found that perfectionism is prevalent in

248 ballet and contemporary dance, it is important to consider the differences in environments and
249 competition structures (i.e. ballet dancers compete for the opportunity to perform within
250 companies, whilst Irish dancers compete for individual success in competitions) which may
251 induce perfectionistic tendencies.^{8,15}

252 It emerged that particular coping strategies (problem- or emotion-focused) were often
253 practised (or not) by dancers classified into discrete perfectionism groups. For example, mixed
254 perfectionism dancers overwhelmingly adopted the ‘planful problem solving’ strategy (96% of
255 dancers in this group utilised the strategy ‘somewhat, quite a bit or a great deal’), whereas only
256 64.3% of those with non-perfectionism tendencies did so. Similar to findings among
257 swimmers,⁴⁷ this suggests that individuals with mixed perfectionistic tendencies may deal
258 directly with stressors and find benefit in creating an action plan to handle the stressful
259 situation.²⁸ For coaches and practitioners, this highlights the importance of encouraging young
260 Irish dancers with perfectionistic tendencies to adopt a more pro-active approach to the
261 recovery process in order to feel ‘in control’ of the situation.⁴⁸ Likewise, the findings reveal
262 that non-perfectionism dancers do not adopt confrontive coping strategies (only 21.4% of
263 dancers in this group utilised the strategy ‘somewhat’), compared with dancers within other
264 perfectionism groups, and contradicts previous findings that perfectionism is associated with
265 low utilisation of problem-focused coping strategies within athletes.³⁷ However, it is possible
266 that the Irish dancers with perfectionistic tendencies believe that confronting the stressors
267 surrounding injury allows them to control and change their current circumstances.⁴⁸ This
268 reinforces previous findings that athletes believe their coping process is enhanced by focusing
269 on the step-by-step rehabilitation programme and by engaging with health professionals, such
270 as physiotherapists.⁴⁸ Therefore, it may be paramount that coaches and practitioners encourage
271 confrontive coping strategies for Irish dancers, as this may increase an individual’s perception
272 of coping effectively with injury, thus reducing psychological distress and aiding psychological

273 adjustment to the stressful situation.^{22,28,29} More predictable was the common use of social
274 support across all perfectionism groups given that young athletes perceive this strategy to be
275 paramount,⁴⁹ as it decreases feelings of isolation and enhances positive affect when coping
276 with injury.⁵⁰ An earlier study revealed that young Irish dancers felt that other dancers, along
277 with their parents, created a support network and that ‘shared experiences’ among dancers
278 allowed them to cope more effectively whilst experiencing injury.⁸ Importantly, these findings
279 reinforce previous recommendations by Mosewich et al.⁴⁸ that young athletes should have
280 access to a supportive social network as this reduces the psychological stress associated with
281 injury.

282 Findings suggest that Irish dancers frequently employ emotion-focused coping
283 strategies (distancing and self-controlling), which opposes previous work suggesting that ballet
284 dancers perceive them to be ineffective when coping with injury.²⁸ Their frequent use of the
285 distancing strategy in the current study reaffirms that Irish dancers often psychologically
286 disengage from the stressful situation and look at the circumstances objectively as an effective
287 method to reduce the psychological distress associated with injury.^{51,52} Furthermore, the
288 popularity (89.9%) of a self-controlling coping strategy (e.g. acceptance of the experience and
289 maintenance of positive mind-set) likely increases emotional investment in the rehabilitation
290 process,⁵³ reduces the negative emotions surrounding the situation and generates higher levels
291 of subjective happiness and self-esteem.⁵⁴ Together, these emotion-focused strategies could act
292 as a ‘buffer’ against the negative impact of long periods of time spent away from training and
293 competition following injury.^{19,27} For coaches and practitioners, this emphasises the
294 importance of changing the psychological meaning of the experience to facilitate the coping
295 process.⁵⁵

296 The current data have important implications for the psychological well-being of
297 dancers, as strategies which ensure that they cope with injury could effectively enhance the

298 recovery process. However, given the retrospective nature of the study, which asked dancers
299 to recollect their experiences of injury over several years, it is acknowledged that some
300 inaccuracies are possible,^{6,16} particularly in the form of under-reporting of minor injuries.¹⁸ In
301 the absence of available medical records or physical screenings such bias is inevitable. Future
302 research in this area would benefit from a larger sample size and the inclusion of objective
303 measures (for example. chart reviews, physical screenings or functional tests), to reduce the
304 subjectivity of self-report data and increase the generalisability of findings.²¹ Exploring the
305 relationship between the severity of an injury and the utilisation of specific coping strategies
306 would provide further insight into the recovery process of Irish dancers. Another issue which
307 should be considered is that dancers were ‘relatively isolated’ when completing the
308 questionnaires. In some instances, the dancers had to complete their questionnaires with other
309 individuals present. Whilst the areas (a quiet seating area at the training facilities and a separate
310 room at the competition) did remain quiet to avoid distraction, it is possible that some factors
311 may have impacted how these dancers responded to the questionnaires. For example, the
312 presence of other dancers and parents. Future research in this area would benefit from ensuring
313 isolation and gaining insight to whether perfectionism is activated within dance academies, and
314 if the presence of others induces different responses regarding perfectionism and coping
315 strategies.

316

317 **Conclusion**

318 The aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence of perfectionism among young
319 competitive Irish dancers and examine the relationship between perfectionistic tendencies and
320 specific coping strategies utilised when experiencing injury. For the first time, this study has
321 revealed that young competitive female Irish dancers are subject to frequent injuries of variable
322 severity and that the utilisation of coping strategies is paramount during the recovery period. It

323 has also been shown that perfectionism is prevalent among dancers and that many individuals
324 employ problem-focused and emotion-focused strategies simultaneously to cope with injury.
325 While the relationships between perfectionism and coping strategies utilised when
326 experiencing injury were typically not strong, it was clear that those with perfectionistic
327 tendencies (the majority of the Irish dancers) were more likely to adopt a ‘planful problem
328 solving’ or ‘confrontive coping’ approach than those with non-perfectionistic tendencies.
329 Importantly, a practical application of the current findings is the acknowledgement by
330 practitioners and coaches that different related coping styles are utilised by dancers in order to
331 reduce the negative psychological impact associated with injury. Above all, this study has
332 provided a foundation for future research into the under-explored sport of Irish dance,
333 specifically with regard to injuries and how young dancers cope with them.

334

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338

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481 Table 1: Mean reportings from the sample for each coping strategy.
482

Coping strategy	Mean
Planful problem solving	1.5
Confrontive coping	1.0
Seeking social support	1.6
Distancing	1.2
Self-controlling	1.3
Accepting responsibility	0.9
Escape-avoidance	0.9
Positive reappraisal	0.9

483 *Note: (0) 'Not used'; (1) Used somewhat'; (2 or 3) 'Used quite a bit or used a great deal'*
484

485 Table 2: Frequencies (%) of ratings for problem-focused strategies by perfectionism groups.

Perfectionism Group	Ratings		
	0	1	2 or 3
Planful problem-solving			
Mixed (<i>n</i> = 27)	1 (3.7)	11 (40.7)	15 (55.6)
Non (<i>n</i> = 14)	5 (35.7)	7 (50.0)	2 (14.3)
Pure SOP (<i>n</i> = 20)	5 (25.0)	11 (55.0)	4 (20.0)
Pure SPP (<i>n</i> = 7)	2 (28.6)	4 (57.1)	1 (14.3)

Confrontive coping

Mixed ($n = 27$)	9 (33.3)	18 (66.7)	0 (0.0)
Non ($n = 14$)	11 (78.6)	3 (21.4)	0 (0.0)
Pure SOP ($n = 20$)	6 (30.0)	13 (65.0)	1 (5.0)
Pure SPP ($n = 7$)	3 (42.9)	3 (42.9)	1 (14.3)

Seeking social support

Mixed ($n = 27$)	6 (22.2)	9 (33.3)	12 (44.4)
Non ($n = 14$)	2 (14.2)	7 (50.0)	5 (35.7)
Pure SOP ($n = 20$)	3 (15.0)	10 (50.0)	7 (35.0)
Pure SPP ($n = 7$)	3 (42.9)	0 (0.0)	4 (57.1)

486 *Note: (0) 'Not used'; (1) Used somewhat'; (2 or 3) 'Used quite a bit or used a great deal'*

487

488

489 Table 3: Frequencies (%) of ratings for emotion-focused strategies by perfectionism groups.

Perfectionism Group	Ratings		
	0	1	2 or 3
Distancing			
Mixed ($n = 27$)	13 (48.1)	14 (51.9)	0 (0.0)
Non ($n = 14$)	5 (35.7)	9 (64.3)	0 (0.0)
PURE SOP ($n = 20$)	6 (30.0)	12 (60.0)	2 (10.0)
PURE SPP ($n = 7$)	1 (14.3)	4 (57.1)	2 (28.6)
Self-controlling			
Mixed ($n = 27$)	3 (11.1)	19 (70.4)	5 (18.5)
Non ($n = 14$)	6 (42.9)	8 (57.1)	0 (0.0)
PURE SOP ($n = 20$)	7 (35.0)	11 (55.0)	2 (10.0)
PURE SPP ($n = 7$)	1 (14.3)	5 (71.4)	1 (14.3)
Accepting responsibility			
Mixed ($n = 27$)	14 (51.9)	9 (33.3)	4 (14.8)
Non ($n = 14$)	11 (78.6)	2 (14.3)	1 (7.1)
PURE SOP ($n = 20$)	9 (45.0)	8 (40.0)	3 (15.0)

PURE SPP ($n = 7$)	3 (42.9)	4 (57.1)	0 (0.0)
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Escape-avoidance

Mixed ($n = 27$)	17 (63.6)	10 (37.0)	0 (0.0)
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Non ($n = 14$)	6 (42.9)	7 (50.0)	1 (7.1)
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PURE SOP ($n = 20$)	9 (45.0)	11 (55.0)	0 (0.0)
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PURE SPP ($n = 7$)	4 (57.1)	3 (42.9)	0 (0.0)
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Positive reappraisal

Mixed ($n = 27$)	14 (51.9)	12 (44.4)	1 (3.7)
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Non ($n = 14$)	10 (71.4)	4 (28.6)	0 (0.0)
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PURE SOP ($n = 20$)	8 (40.0)	10 (50.0)	2 (10.0)
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PURE SPP ($n = 7$)	3 (42.9)	4 (57.1)	0 (0.0)
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