Relationship with Spouse and Restriction of Role in Mothers of children with and without Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD)

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Abstract

Introduction: This research was down to compare Relationship with spouse and restriction of role between Mothers with ADHD sons and the normal ones. Materials and Methods: The research is a causal-comparing study and the statistical universe was all mothers of 5 to 12 years old sons with ADHD who referred to child psychiatry clinics (I bn-e-Sina and Dr Sheikh Hospitals) and all Mothers of normal son (5 to 12 years old) were selected in primary and pre-primary school at 4th educational area of Mashhad city, north-eastern part of Iran. Fifty mothers with ADHD children by at reached sampling and 80 Mothers with normal children were selected by cluster sampling. Parenting Stress Index (PSI) was used and data analyzed by descriptive and analytic statistical methods such as T-test in independent groups. Results: Results showed that there was a significant difference between relationship with spouse in mothers of ADHD children and mother of normal children (p<0.000). There was a significant difference between restriction of role in Mothers of ADHD children and mother of normal children (p<0.000)Conclusion: Mothers with ADHD children had more restriction of role compared with mothers of normal children and they also had more problems in their relationship with spouse which it is realized by parenting stress index.

Keywords: Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD), Relationship with Spouse, Restriction of Role;

1. Introduction

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a consistent pattern of inattention and hyperactivity and impulsive behavior which some of its branches appear before 7 years old and a least in two eases of above mentioned pattern there should be a disturbances, to be diagnosed as ADHD(American Psychiatric Association,2000).

The importance of this disorder lies in its high prevalence so that 50 percent of children who refer to mental health clinics suffer from ADHD. Statistics show that about 3 to 5 percent of school age children are affected by ADHD. (Cantwell,1996) boys are affected by ADHD as much as triple than girls. (Klassen, Miller & Fine, 2004). This disorder is along with many problems in the various educational aspects as weak academic performance, grade repetition, quitting school, poor family and friends relationship, anxiety, aggressiveness, lower age drug abuse
disorder and high infringement and also there is the possibility of the risk of accompanying other disorders as adolescence aggressiveness or stubbornness and disobedience disorder. Davids & Gastpar, 2005).

ADHD children instigate considerable problems on their parents (Breen & Barcley 1988) and cause more marital conflict and stresses. (Fischer, 1990). The problems with marital affairs may exist when one of the parents show symptoms ADHD or when parents disagree about medication intervention for their ADHD children. the parents of ADHD children who are treated medically often have higher self-esteem and their children also may do their duties better (Johnstoh, & Mash, 2001).

Pavuluti and his colleagues (1990) in their studies found that there is a significant relationship between any change in family stability and parents conflict with children ADHD symptoms occurrences (Pavuluti, Luk & Gee, 1999). There are evidences about child ADHD interference with marital and family perform acne (Johnstoh, & Mash, 2001).

Interrelationship in the families with ADHD children suffers from more stress and is less organized (Satake, Yamashita & Yoshida 2004), according to Brown (1978) family dynamism theories the poor performance in marital relationship affects on child behavior and the family performance reflection appear in the form of ADHD (Dupaul, Mcgoey & Eckert, 2001).

The parents of ADHD children have more stress and lower adaptation ability and they are inclined to show negative behaviors toward their children (Wood, 2007).

Insecurity feelings in the family because of marital conflicts affects on child behavioral – emotional problems so that marital conflicts as a stressor factor along whit reduction in child emotional immunity can result in child emotional problems (Cummings, Kouros & Papp, 2007).

Befera and Barekly (1985) suggest that ADHD children mothers have less marital cohesion in comparison with normal children mothers an according to their prolonged study ADHD children families experience more possibility of divorce and separation than normal children family and also increasing parenting stress cause less marital coherence which in itself has a correlating effect on child behavior tension researchers show that the children who constantly observe their parents conflict show more mental disorders during future years and also ADHD children parents sense more role limitation than normal children parents, they feel that they do not have much freedom of action so that they feel that their children deprive them from their freedom in life roles so these parents show negative consequences about their lack of main roles in their life (Wood, 2007).

2. Method

2.1. Participants

This research is from causative-comparative kind which is conducted in order to compare with Spouse and Restriction of Role of the mothers who have ADHD children and the mothers who have normal children so statistical community includes the mothers of 5-12 years old preschool children of district 4 of Mashhad and the mothers of 5-12 years old hyperactive children who were referred to child psychiatry extra-specialized clinics in Ibn-e-Sina and Dr. sheikh hospitals which 50 mothers of hyperactive-attention-defect children were selected by available sampling and 80 mothers of normal children were selected by the method of stepwise cluster sampling.

2.2. Measures

Parenting stress index. This a questionnaire on the basis of self-report which evaluates the stress significance in parent-child system and includes 120 items which comprises both childhood (47 items) and parenthood (54 items) domains plus an optional scale as life conflicts (19 items) (Abidin, 1990; Stora, 2006). scaling method also is done by Likert method in terms of 1 to 5 responses (from I agree absolutely to I disagree absolutely) in the field of psychoanalysis of this questionnaire, instrument internal similarity reliability coefficient was obtained 0.93 for total scale in a group of American mothers and for its domains 0.86 (child domain) and 0.83 (parents domain) were.
obtained respectively in Dadsetan, Azghandi and Hassan Abudy (2006) researches, instrument internal similarity reliability coefficient was 0.88 for total scale and retest reliability coefficient was 0.94 by a 10 days' time interval (Dadestan, Ahmadi Azghandi & Hasan Abadi, 2006). the mothers, the obtained information was analyzed by using descriptive and perceptive statistical methods as independent t-test groups.

3. Tables

To compare relationship with spouse in the mothers of ADHD children and the mothers of normal children, independent groups t-test was used (Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Normal(N=80) M(SD)</th>
<th>ADHD(N=50) M(SD)</th>
<th>t(df=128)</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>relationship with spouse</td>
<td>7.17 (4.42)</td>
<td>21.76(6.39)</td>
<td>4.83*</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: n=130, (PSI) = domain relationship with spouse
* p<0/05
**p<0/01

The results of table 1 show that there is a significant relationship between the mothers of ADHD children and the mothers of normal children in relationship with spouse, p<0.05) For comparing mothers of ADHD children restriction of role and the mothers of normal children, independent groups t-test was used (table 2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Normal(N=80) M(SD)</th>
<th>ADHD(N=50) M(SD)</th>
<th>t(df=128)</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>restriction of role</td>
<td>18.37(4.55)</td>
<td>23.04(6.22)</td>
<td>5.03*</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: n=130
* p<0/05
**p<0/01

The results of table 2 show that there is a significant relationship (p<0.05) between the mothers of ADHD children and the mothers of normal children in restriction of role.

4. Conclusion

Breen and Barcley (1988) emphasis on the importance of family and the environment which child and a disorder raised there, especially while this disorder is posed as a reactive process. Children who suffer from this disorder have intense reactions towards their parents. In the present study by considering the importance of this topic in childhood psychological disorders, role limitations and marital relationship of hyperactive children mothers and normal children mothers are compared. In this research effective factors on children mothers who suffer from hyperactivity attention deficit disorder (ADHD) and normal children mothers are compared. Results show that high scores in role limitation scale determine that parent role is considered a role which results in freedom limitation and obstacle creation on the way to access special identity confirmation. These parents feel that they are under control of needs and desires of their children and in many situations an extensive annoyance and anger towards child or spouse are apparently observed (dadsetan 2006).
Higher scores in marital relationship domain means that the parents who lack other parents active and emotional support in the field of child caring, ADHD children cause a considerable problems for their parents and also cause marital conflicts and more stress so that various researches results show that marital conflicts have direct relationship with child mental disorder each hinds of adolescents emotional disorders have a relationship with their experience from parents marital conflicts. Continuous conflicts between spouses are as a source for adolescent’s mental problems, evidences from the first stages of ADHD and its relation with marital disability and weak performance are obtained. Intravelationship in the families of ADHD children is more intense and less organized. These results conform with Abidin, 1990 wood, 2006 , Baldwin & Brown 1995 Johnston & Mash 1990, 2001, Dupaul, Mcgoey & Eckert 2001, Satake , Yamashita & Yoshida 2004, Jennifer,2010. These researchers show in their researchers that ADHD children mothers confront with low responsibility sense and social and personal role limitations in relation to their children education and caring in comparison with normal children mother. Also couples, who experience more stressor events, are more exposed to the negative marital consequences and there are some evidences that ADHD interferes with parent’s marital and family performance.

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