Violence and its related factors in infertile women

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Background & Aim: Infertility, as a crisis in marital life, has multiple psychological and social consequences for couples, especially women. Infertile women are more vulnerable to violence than fertile women. The purpose of this study was to determine the degree of violence and its related factors in infertile women referring to Infertility centers of Rasht in Iran.

Materials & Method: This cross-sectional, descriptive-analytic study was conducted on 245 women with primary infertility who referred to infertility centers in Rasht. Sampling was selected sequential. The data collection tool were a researcher-made questionnaire to examine the personal, social, economic and infertility characteristics of couples and Onat’s violence standard questionnaire for assessing the exposure of infertile women. The data were analyzed by descriptive and analytic statistical methods (Spearman, Mann Whitney and Kruskal Wallis correlation coefficients) and the results were announced.

Results: The results show that the mean total score of violence was 50.93±18.79. There was a significant relationship between the total score of violence and the duration of marriage, the duration of awareness and treatment of infertility, the age of married couples, occupation/education of couples, relationship with spouse, unwittingly marriage and the number of infertility treatment (p<0.05).

Conclusion: The results of this study showed that infertility is not merely a biomedical disorder and can lead to violence against women, so consideration of its social dimensions is recommended in therapeutic evaluations.

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