

The Relationship between Attachment Styles and Psychological Capital with Depression through Mediating Early Maladaptive Schemas in Patients with Hearing Impairment

Mansour Nazari-Chafjiri¹, Shahnām Abolghasemi^{2*}, Mohammadreza Zarbakhsh-Bahri²

1. PhD student General Psychology, Department of Psychology, Tonekabon Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tonekabon, Iran.
2. Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Tonekabon Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tonekabon, Iran.

*Corresponding Author: Shahnām Abolghasemi, Department of Psychology, Tonekabon Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tonekabon, Iran.

Email: sh.abolghasemi@toniau.ac.ir

Received: 21 August 2021

Accepted: 20 September 2021

Published: 10 October 2021

How to cite this article:

Nazari-Chafjiri M, Abolghasemi Sh, Zarbakhsh-Bahri M. The Relationship between Attachment Styles and Psychological Capital with Depression through Mediating Early Maladaptive Schemas in Patients with Hearing Impairment. *Salāmat-i ijtimāi (Community Health)*. 2021; 8(4): 30-42. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.22037/ch.v8i4.31490>.

Abstract

Background and Objective: Hearing is one of the essential sensory abilities of humans that play a significant role in adapting a person to the environment. Disruption of this sense can cause problems for the individual, including psychological problems. The aim of this study was to determine the relationship between attachment styles, psychological capital and depression among patients with hearing impairment by mediating primary maladaptive schemas.

Materials and Methods: This descriptive correlation and structural equation modelling study was conducted with 305 patients with hearing impairments with active files in the Deaf Center of Rasht city affiliated to the Welfare Organization of Guilan Province, who were selected by simple random sampling method. Data collection tools were the Psychological Capital Questionnaire, the short version of Early maladaptive Schemas Questionnaire, the Beck Depression Inventory, and the Parents 'and Peers' Attachment Scale. Data analysis was performed using the Pearson correlation coefficient method and structural equation model using SPSS software version 22 and Lisrel software version 8.80.

Results: The coefficient of correlation of the initial maladaptive schema with depression was 0.784 ($r=0.784$): increased score of the initial maladaptive schema with a mean (SD) of 3.15 (0.46) was associated with an increased depression score with a mean (SD) of 2.54 (0.55). The correlation coefficient of attachment styles with depression was -0.322 ($r=-0.232$): increased attachment styles score with a mean (SD) of 2.75 (0.40) was associated with a decreased depression score with a mean (SD) of 2.54 (0.55). The correlation coefficient of psychological capital with depression was -0.415 ($r=-0.1515$): increased psychological capital score with a mean (SD) of 2.49 (0.88) was associated with a decreased depression score with a mean (SD) of 2.54 (0.55). The direct effect of attachment styles with depression is -0.38. The indirect effect in the presence of the mediating variable of the initially incompatible schemas is -0.538. Also, the direct effect of psychological capital with depression is -0.41. The indirect effect in the presence of the mediating variable of the initially incompatible schemas was -0.71. The effect of attachment styles and psychological capitals on reducing depression increased by reducing the score of maladaptive schemas.

Conclusion: The study showed that with increasing attachment styles and psychological capital, depression decreased, and maladaptive schemas had a mediating role in the relationship between attachment styles and psychological capital with depression and increased this effect.

Keywords: Hearing Impairment Population, Attachment style, psychological capital, early maladaptive schemas, Depression.

Introduction

Hearing impairment affects some 5% of the population (1) and is associated with

psychosocial problems such as depression (2). Attachment is one of the predisposing factors to depression (3). Children with hearing

impairment experience significant deprivation due to their inability to hear their mother's voice and lack of understanding of their mother's tone (4). Having psychological capital enables people to deal with stressful situations better, be less stressed, and have higher psychological health because it gives meaning to their lives in an interactive and evaluative process. Psychological capital was positively associated with an adaptive response to depression (5). The presence of early maladaptive schemas is a vulnerability to depressive symptoms (6), and early maladaptive schemas can predict depression (7). Hearing impairments can negatively affect interpersonal relationships and reduce the participation and performance of favorite roles that affect people's mental health (8). This study aimed to determine the relationship between attachment styles, psychological capital, and depression among patients with hearing impairment by mediating primary maladaptive schemas.

Materials and methods

This descriptive correlation and structural equation modelling study was conducted with 305 patients with hearing impairments with active files in the Deaf Center of Rasht city affiliated to the Welfare Organization of Guilan Province. They were selected by a simple random sampling method. Data collection tools were the Psychological Capital Questionnaire (9), the short version of the Early maladaptive Schemas Questionnaire (10), the Beck Depression Inventory (11), and the Parents 'and Peers' Attachment Scale (12). Data analysis was performed using the Pearson correlation coefficient method and structural equation model using SPSS software version 22 and Lisrel software version 8.80.

Results

The coefficient of correlation of the initial maladaptive schema with depression was 0.784 ($r=0.784$): increased score of the initial maladaptive schema with a mean (SD) of 3.15 (0.46) was associated with an increased depression score with a mean (SD) of 2.54 (0.55). The correlation coefficient of attachment styles with depression was -0.322 ($r=-0.232$): increased attachment styles score

with a mean (SD) of 2.75 (0.40) was associated with a decreased depression score with a mean (SD) of 2.54 (0.55). The correlation coefficient of psychological capital with depression was -0.415 ($r = -0.1515$): increased psychological capital score with a mean (SD) of 2.49 (0.88) was associated with a decreased depression score with a mean (SD) of 2.54 (0.55). The direct effect of attachment styles with depression is -0.38. The indirect effect in the presence of the mediating variable of the initially incompatible schemas is -0.538. Also, the direct effect of psychological capital with depression is -0.41. The indirect effect in the presence of the mediating variable of the initially incompatible schemas was -0.71. The effect of attachment styles and psychological capitals on reducing depression increased by reducing the score of maladaptive schemas.

Discussion

The present study showed that the score of depression in people with hearing impairment decreased with increasing the score of attachment styles. Parents of people with hearing impairment may have experienced more stress in their childhood, which is associated with insecure attachment in people with hearing impairment. An increased score of early maladaptive schemas was associated with an increased depression rate, which was in line with other studies (6) who showed that early maladaptive schemas are a cause of vulnerability to depressive symptoms. Increased psychological capital was associated with a decreased score of depression, which was consistent with other studies (13). In addition, by reducing maladaptive schemas, the effect of attachment styles and psychological capital on reducing depression increases. If people with hearing impairment have sufficient psychological capital, they act more optimistically, their hope of adapting to the environment increases, resilience and self-efficacy grow in them, and this process can make it easier to deal with life's hardships, improve quality of life, and reduce depression.

Conclusion

The study showed that with increasing attachment styles and psychological capital,

depression decreased, and maladaptive schemas had a mediating role in the relationship between attachment styles and psychological capital with depression and increased this effect.

Acknowledgment

The authors would like to thank all participants of the study.

Conflict of Interest

None of the authors has any conflict of interest to disclose.

Ethical publication statement

We confirm that we have read the Journal's position on issues involved in ethical publication and affirm that this report is consistent with those guidelines.

Ethical code: IR.IAU.TON.REC.1399.106.

REFERENCES

1. Zhang F, Underwood G, McGuire K, Liang C, Moore DR, Fu QJ. Frequency change detection and speech perception in cochlear implant users. *Hearing research*. 2019;379:12-20.
2. Cosh S, Helmer C, Delcourt C, Robins TG, Tully PJ. Depression in elderly patients with hearing loss: current perspectives. *Clinical interventions in aging*. 2019;14:1471.
3. Shakehnia F, Kajbaf MB, Golkari T. The Comparison of Coping Strategies and Quality of Attachment in Students with and without obsessive-compulsive disorder. *Quarterly Journal of Child Mental Health*. 2017;4(2):135-45.
4. Zarei F, Saroukhani S. A Comparison of Attachment Styles and Resilience Between People with Visually Impaired and Hearing Impaired and the Ordinary Ones. *Quarterly Journal of Social Work*. 2016. 10;5(1):20-6.
5. Bakker DJ, Lyons ST, Conlon PD. An exploration of the relationship between psychological capital and depression among first-year doctor of veterinary medicine students. *Journal of veterinary medical education*. 2017;44(1):50-62.
6. Camara M, Calvete E. P-122-Cognitive schemas predicting anxiety and depressive symptoms: the role of dysfunctional coping strategies. *European Psychiatry*. 2012;27(1):1-12.
7. Alimoradi B, Nejat H. Brain Behavioral Systems, Early Maladaptive Schema, and Premenstrual in Mothers with Postpartum Depression Disorder. *IJRN*. 2019;6(2):56-65
8. Zheng DD, Swenor BK, Christ SL, West SK, Lam BL, Lee DJ. Longitudinal associations between visual impairment and cognitive functioning: the Salisbury Eye Evaluation Study. *JAMA ophthalmology*. 2018;136(9):989-95 .
9. Bahadori Khosroshah J, Hashemi Nosratabad T, Babapour Kheirodin J. The relationship of psychological capital with social capital among students. *Journal of Research & Health*. 2012;2(1):63-71.
10. Waller G, Meyer C, Ohanian V. Psychometric properties of the long and short versions of the Young Schema Questionnaire: Core beliefs among bulimic and comparison women. *Cognitive Therapy and Research*. 2001;25(2):137-47.
11. Rajabi GH, Karju Kasmai S. Psychometric properties of a Persian language version of the beck depression inventory second edition. *Educational Measurement*. 2013;3(10):139-158 .
12. Nasery Mohammadabadi A, Askari A, Bahrami S, Abedi J. Standardization and validation of Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment-Revised (IPPA-R) in children. *Research in Clinical Psychology and Counseling*. 2013;2(2):25-34 .
13. Wang CE, Halvorsen M, Eisemann M. Stability of dysfunctional attitudes and early maladaptive schemas: A 9-year follow-up study of clinically depressed subjects. *Journal of behavior therapy and experimental psychiatry*. 2010;41(4):389-96.