

Depression and Social Dysfunction among Chronic Renal Failure Patients

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: This descriptive cross-sectional study explores the demographic characteristics, social dysfunction, and depression levels.

Methods: To achieve the stated goals, 39 chronic renal failure patients chosen in accidental sampling method in Al Nasiriya city, Imam Hussain Teaching Hospital during the period from April 1, 2023, to September 1, 2023. Utilizing two domains of the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-28) which they are depression and social dysfunction.

Results: The study reveals a diverse demographic profile, with a slight majority of females and a varied age distribution. The assessment of mental health highlights concerning levels of symptomatic experiences related to social failure and depression. In the social dysfunction, participants express moderate levels of thoughts such as worthlessness, hopelessness, and suicidal ideation. The analysis of daily functioning and satisfaction indicates both symptomatic and asymptomatic experiences, emphasizing the complexity of managing daily tasks. The assessment of depression reveals a substantial portion of participants experiencing symptomatic manifestations, suggesting a noteworthy presence of depressive symptoms within the studied population. The correlation analysis between social dysfunction and depression indicates a minimal and statistically nonsignificant relationship. This suggests that social dysfunction may not be a strong predictor of depressive symptoms within this study, emphasizing the need for a more comprehensive investigation into the intricate interplay between social aspects and depression. Factors such as individual resilience, coping mechanisms, social support, and cultural influences may contribute to the observed variability in responses.

Discussion: findings of the study highlight the importance of focusing on demographic factors in understanding mental health outcomes. There is an urgent need for intervention targeting chronic renal failure patients in social functioning domain as the prevalence of symptomatic experiences were high related to social failure and depression. Such conclusions stress the complexity of individuals' subjective experiences and emphasize the importance of comprehensive mental health support tailored to the specific challenges identified in the study.

Key words: Depression, social dysfunction, chronic renal failure.

Highlights

- **Diverse Demographics Influence Mental Health:**
 - Varied profile shapes mental well-being.
- **Nuanced Mental Health Experiences Revealed:**
 - Varying symptomatic thoughts highlight complexity.
- **Limited Correlation Between Social Dysfunction and Depression:**
 - Minimal, nonsignificant relationship prompts further exploration.

Bahrain Med Bull 2024; 46 (2): 2099 - 2104

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