

## **Abstract**

The current study investigated the relationships among personality traits, locus of control and stressful life events in patients suffering from conversion disorder. The sample consisted of forty conversion patients who were selected by purposive sampling and were made to respond to measures including the HEXACO Personality Inventory Revised (Ashton & Lee, 1991), Internality, Powerful Others and Chance scales (Levenson, 1981) and Social Readjustment Rating Scale (McGrath & Bukhart, 1983), along with their demographic information. The analysis included the application of linear regression, ANOVA and independent samples t-test to explore the relationships and differences among these variables along with the socio-demographics of the sample. The results indicated significant relationships as being present between personality traits and stress, locus of control attributions and stress, internal locus of control and self-esteem, low socio-economic status, poor education and stress, and low socio-economic status, poor education and external locus of control. On the other hand, an insignificant relationship was found between the marital status of Conversion patients and stress, in contrast to various previous findings, which suggested that being unmarried would lead to greater stress; therefore making one more vulnerable to a psychological illness such as Conversion disorder. Therefore, the findings suggested that negative personality traits such as emotionality and an external locus of control were predictors of high stress and vulnerability to psychological illness among conversion patients. This relationship was further strengthened among the poorly educated and those who belonged to the low socio-economic status.

*Keywords:* Personality, stressful life events, locus of control, Conversion disorder