

Abstract

The present study aimed to investigate the relationship between perceived social support, hope and mental health among paralyzed patients. The sample comprised of (n=90) men and women with paralysis from Orthopedic and Neurology ward of Lahore General Hospital and Sheikh Zayed Hospital. The scales used were Perceived Social Support (Procidano & Heller, 1983), Herth Hope Index (Hope, 1992) and Mental Health Inventory (Veit & Ware, 1998). The Urdu version of all the scales were used. Data was statistically analyzed by correlation, regression and t-test analysis. A significant positive correlation was found between perceived social support, hope and mental health among paralyzed patients. Hope did not serve as a significant predictor of mental health instead only perceived social support predicted mental health in the patients with paralysis. Additionally, the patients with paralysis due to stroke had higher psychological distress than the patients with paralysis due to brain injury and spinal cord injury.

Key words. *Perceived social support, hope, mental health, paralysis, psychological distress, psychological wellbeing.*