Abstract

The present study aimed to examine the relationship among life orientation, fear of negative evaluation and loneliness among women with burn, cancer and serious dermatological issues. The purpose was also to investigate the difference among the study variables in study population. To understand the relationship and differences, survey design was used. A total of 90 participants were selected for the study through purposive sampling procedure. The participants included in the study were 30 burned women, 30 women having cancer and 30 women with serious dermatological issues (vitiligo and dermatitis). Three assessment tools that are life orientation scale-revised (Scheier, 1994), brief fear of negative evaluation scale (Leary, 1983) and UCLA loneliness scale (Russell, 1996) were used for data collection along with demographic information of the participants. The analysis included the application of correlation and ANOVA. The results of the study revealed that life orientation, fear of negative evaluation and loneliness have a highly significant relationship with each other among all three populations. Findings further suggested that women with cancer have high life orientation and low fear of negative evaluation and loneliness while both the women with burn and serious dermatological issues have low life orientation and high fear of negative evaluation and loneliness. The study also revealed that women with vitiligo hold a pessimistic life orientation and high fear of negative evaluation and loneliness than women having dermatitis. The demographic findings showed that education, marital status, employment does play a role in the life of women with disfigurements.

Key words: Life orientation, fear of negative evaluation, loneliness, burn, cancer, dermatological issues, vitiligo, dermatitis.