Self-esteem, general and sexual self-concepts in blind people

Mehrdad Salehi¹, Abas Azarbayejani¹, Katayoun Shafiei¹, Tayebe Ziaei², Bahar Shayegh³

¹Department of Psychiatry, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, ²Counseling and Reproductive Health Research Centre, Golestan University of Medical Sciences, Gorgan, ³Department of Pediatric Psychiatric, AI Zahra Hospital, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran

Background: People with visual disability have lower self-esteem and social skills than sighted people. This study was designed to describe self-esteem and general and sexual self-concepts in blind people. **Materials and Methods:** This was a cross-sectional study, conducted in the Isfahan University of Medical Sciences in 2013-2014. In this study, 138 visually impaired people participated from Isfahan Province Welfare Organization and were interviewed for measuring of self-esteem and self-concept using Eysenck self-esteem and Rogers' self-concept questionnaires. The correlation between above two variables was measured using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software by Pearson correlation test. **Results:** Mean [± standard deviation (SD)] age of patients was 30.9 ± 8 years. The mean (±SD) of general self-concept score was 11 ± 5.83 . The mean (±SD) of self-esteem score was 16.62 ± 2.85 . Pearson correlation results showed a significant positive correlation between self-esteem and general self-concept (r = 0.19, P = 0.025). The mean of sexual self-concept scores in five subscales (sexual anxiety, sexual self-efficacy, sexual self-esteem, sexual fear, and sexual depression) were correspondingly 11 ± 4.41 , 19.53 ± 4.53 , 12.96 ± 4.19 , 13.48 ± 1.76 , and 5.38 ± 2.36 . Self-esteem and self-concept had significant positive correlation with sexual anxiety (r = 0.49; P < 0.001) (r = -0.28; P = 0.001) and sexual fear (r = 0.25; P = 0.003) (r = 0.18; P = 0.02) and negative correlation with sexual self-efficacy (r = -0.26; P = 0.002) (r = -0.28; P = 0.001) and sexual-esteem (r = -0.34; P < 0.001). **Conclusion:** Self-esteem and self-concept had significant correlation with sexual anxiety and sexual-esteem.

Key words: Self-concept, self-esteem, sexual self-concept, visual impairment

How to cite this article: Salehi M, Azarbayejani A, shafiei K, Ziaei T, Shayegh B. Self-esteem, general and sexual self-concepts in blind people. J Res Med Sci 2015;20:930-6.

INTRODUCTION

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines disability as a set of physical or mental disorders preventing people from living a social and individual life independently.^[1] Disability and its interventions are very complex and in terms of sociocultural issues, they are very diverse. There is much evidence that people with disabilities have a lower level of health. ^[1] According to the Comprehensive Law on Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, disability covers six groups of visual, mental, physical-motor, hearing, speech, and psychological disorders.^[1] Visual disability has been considered as one of the most

Access	this article online
Quick Response Code:	Website: www.jmsjournal.net DOI: ****

important types of disability in the world. The WHO defines blindness as vision in an individual's best eye of less than 20.400.^[2]

People with visual disability feel alone and usually have trouble in making new friends. Compared to their sighted peers, people with visual disability have lower self-esteem, social skills, and academic achievement resulting in a need for being supported in psychosocial aspects.^[3]

Self-concept has been defined as a dynamic and organized system of beliefs, attitudes, and views that each person offers to achieve a true pattern of his/her identity.^[4] Studies have indicated that self-concept is the basis of all motivated behaviors. Self-concept embraces

For reprints contact: reprints@medknow.com

Address for correspondence: Dr. Tayebe Ziaei, Counseling and Reproductive Health Research Centre, Golestan University of Medical Sciences, Gorgan, Iran. E-mail: tayebe.ziaee@yahoo.com

Received: 20-07-2015; Revised: 19-08-2015; Accepted: 01-10-2015

This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as the author is credited and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

different "selves" in one's personality and identifies them. Potential "selves," on the other hand, provide the required motivation for one's actions. Thus, self-concept is related to self-esteem and people with high self-esteem usually have a distinctive self-concept as well.[5,6] Self-esteem, as one of the most important aspects of personality and determinants of human behavioral characteristics and development, includes a set of attitudes and beliefs expressed by people in their relationships with the outside world. Self-esteem indicates the extent to which an individual perceives him/herself as able, valuable, and important. Self-esteem is a personal experience expressed in one's speech and behaviors.^[7] Low self-esteem leads to physical and mental disorders such as anxiety, depression, behavioral and communication problems, and deviant behaviors. In a study, Allison found that people with low self-esteem show symptoms such as physical complaints and feeling of loneliness, indifference, depression, and hopelessness. Such consequences undoubtedly increase one's vulnerability and lead to impaired social and interpersonal relationships.^[7]

Among the important needs of life, sexuality is one such need that affects one's satisfaction of life. Many complex aspects of sexuality have been discussed so far,^[4] and researchers have found that it is not enough to analyze sexuality as simply a behavior but it must be regarded as a part of a broader context of human behaviors.^[8] One of the issues considered during the past few decades is the concept of 'sexual selfhood' or sexual self-concept.^[9]

As indicated in many studies, sexual self-concept has a multidimensional nature that makes people able to evaluate themselves in different sexual dimensions.^[10-13] An interesting point in the study done by Ziaei *et al.* (2013) is that they have divided different dimensions of sexual self-concept into positive and negative areas. In the negative area, items reveal negative emotions such as sexual anxiety, fear, and depression and the positive area measures positive emotions such as motivation; passions; and behaviors such as sexual optimism, sexual problem management, and sexual self-esteem and self-efficacy.^[14]

Therefore, general self-concept like self-esteem and selfefficacy can affect general health and sexual self-concept. However, the interaction between general self-concept and sexual self-concept has not been fully examined in previous studies. Accordingly, in line with the WHO objectives regarding enhancing the quality of the disabled people' life and to shift the existing paradigm regarding sexual disorders to sexual health, the present study was conducted to describe self-esteem and general and sexual self-concepts in blind people in 2014 on the blind people who were supported by Isfahan Province Welfare Organization as basic data for making intervention in the future research.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This was a cross-sectional study, conducted in the Isfahan University of Medical Sciences in 2013-2014. (*registered number: 393622*).

The target populations were people with visual impairment who were supported by Isfahan Province Welfare Organization. The inclusion criteria included age above 18 years, not having a severe mental disability or anxiety, mood, personality, and psychotic disorders that make the participants unable to answer the questions properly. In case of not being able to answer questions or withdrawal, the person was excluded from the study. It must be noted that in the present study the severity of visual impairment had not been considered and all participants were completely blind.

After the acceptance of the proposal and permission from the Medical Ethics Committee, people who were eligible for the study were selected. Considering the small number of blind people supported by Isfahan Province Welfare Organization, all blind people (500) who matched the inclusion criteria were invited to participate in the study. However, out of the 500 blind people, 301 refused to participate and 61 did not answer the questionnaires completely and were excluded from the study. Finally, the analysis was conducted on the remaining 138 participants who answered the questionnaires completely.

Measurements

The 30-item Eysenck Personality Inventory (EPI) (self-esteem) was used to examine the participants' self-esteem. The participants were asked to answer "yes" or "no" to each item. The inventory's total scores show the self-esteem score. The score \leq 15 show low self-esteem and scores >15 show high self-esteem. The validity and reliability of the Persian version were confirmed in different studies with Cronbach's alpha of 0.88 and 0.87.^[15,16]

To measure sexual self-concept, the Multidimensional Sexual Self-Concept Questionnaire (MSSCQ) developed by Snell (2001) was used.^[15] Also according to Snell questionnaire, five subgroups included sexual anxiety and sexual self-efficacy. Sexual esteem, sexual fear, and sexual depression were measured.^[15] Here, 22 expressive answers are scored based on Likert scale, from 1 (it is not true about me) to 5 (it is completely true about me). Here, two expressions are reversely scored. The measurement is not based on the total scores, but the total scores of every dimension. The Persian version of MSSCQ has been validated by Ziaei *et al.* (2013). Cronbach's alpha coefficients of this scale is the considered in subscales ranged from 75 to 82.^[17]

Rogers' self-concept questionnaire was used to measure general self-concept of the participants. Both validity and reliability of this questionnaire have been reconfirmed by Nourbakhsh (2004). Cronbach's alpha coefficients of this scale was 0.74.^[18] The score of 0-7 means positive (natural) and score >7-10 means negative (weak) and scores more than 10 named as neurotic self-concept.

To obtain information about the demographic factors of the participants, a demographic checklist was used.

Given that the population of this study was blind people, contents of the questionnaires were converted to Braille.

The three questionnaires of the EPI (self-esteem), the MSSCQ, and Rogers' self-concept questionnaire along with demographic checklist, all converted to Braille, were distributed among the participants who were asked to answer all questions precisely. Besides, those participants who were willing to answer the questions on a computer were provided with a file containing all questionnaires (the text files were converted to audio files via special software). At the end, the answers in Persian Braille were converted to common Persian scripts by someone familiar with both Persian Braille and common Persian scripts.

With regard to the specific situation of the blind people and their lack of familiarity with the apparent sexual content, the participants were assured that complete confidentiality will be maintained about their information and the overall results would be published as general data in the form of an article.

Statistical analysis

The collected data were analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software (version 22) (SPSS-Inc., Chicago, US). Quantitative data were reported by mean \pm standard deviation (SD) and qualitative data were reported by number and percent. Quantitative data were analyzed by independent sample *T*-test and Pearson correlation to measure the correlation between quantitative variables. For data analysis, 0.05 level of significant was selected.

RESULTS

The mean age of the participants in this study was 30.9 ± 8 years. Forty-eight participants (34.8%) were men and 62 (44.9%) were married. The mean age of the men and women participants were 31.1 ± 8 years and 30.7 ± 8 years, respectively (*P* = 0.78).

The mean of self-esteem score was 16.62 ± 2.85 ; accordingly, 48 (34.8%) participants obtained low self-esteem scores (below 15). The mean general self-concept score was 10.6 ± 3.19 ; therefore, 15 (10.9%) participants had normal positive self-concept, 53 (38.4%) had low negative self-concept and 70 (50.7%) had neurotic self-concept (above 10) [Figure 1].

The mean of self-esteem and general self-concept score did not differ significantly concerning gender and marital status [Table 1].

The mean of sexual self-concept scores in five subscales of sexual anxiety, sexual self-efficacy, sexual self-esteem, sexual fear, and sexual depression were respectively 19.53 ± 4.53 , 23.54 ± 4.54 , 12.96 ± 4.19 , 13.48 ± 1.76 , and 5.38 ± 2.36 .

The results showed that the mean of sexual anxiety, sexual self-efficacy, and sexual fear scores in terms of marital status were significantly different (P < 0.001, P = 0.03, and P < 0.001). But any of sexual self-concept dimensions were not significantly different based on gender [Table 2].

According to the Pearson correlation results, there was a positive significant relationship between general self-concept and self-esteem (r = 0.19, P = 0.025). Also, there were a positive significant relationship between general self-concept and two dimensions of sexual self-concept; sexual anxiety (r = 0.23, P = 0.005) and sexual fear (r = 0.18; P = 0.028). Negative significant relationship were between general self-concept and sexual self-efficacy (r = -0.28, P = 0.001) and sexual self-esteem (r = -0.34, P < 0.0001) [Table 3].

There is same significant relationship between self-esteem and dimensions of sexual self-concept as shown in Table 3.

Table 1: Mean and standard deviation of self-esteemand general self-concept in terms of gender and maritalstatus

Variables	Self-este	em	Self-concept		
	Mean ± SD	P *	Mean ± SD	P *	
Total	16.62±2.85	-	11±5.83	-	
Gender					
Men	16.9±2.64	0.4	1045±3.16	0.41	
Women	16.47±6.84		11.3±6.84		
Marital status					
Married	16.31±2.87	0.25	9.98±3.33	0.062	
Single	16.87±2.83		11.84±7.17		

Based on two independent sample T-test

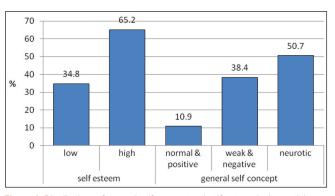


Figure 1: Distributions of general self-concept and self-esteem in the participants

Dimensions of sexual		Gender		Marital status			
self- concept	Men	Women	P *	Married	Single	P *	
Sexual anxiety	10.13±3.99	11.48±4.57	0.09	9.31±3.87	12.39±4.36	< 0.001	
Sexual self-efficacy	18.65±4.56	20.01±4.48	0.092	20.45±4.33	18.79±4.59	0.032	
Sexual self-esteem	12.17±4.28	13.38±4.16	0.11	13.37±4.02	12.62±4.39	0.3	
Sexual fear	13.3±1.6	13.56±1.84	0.48	12.63±1.55	14.17±1.61	< 0.001	
Sexual depression	4.94±2.07	5.61±2.48	0.11	5.06±2.28	5.63±2.42	0.16	

sed on two independent sample T-test

	Self -concept	Self -esteem	Sexual anxiety	Sexual self-efficacy	Sexual self-esteem	Sexual fear	Sexual depression
Self -concept	1	.191*	.238**	283**	349**	.187*	.138
Self -esteem		1	.499**	260**	340**	.255**	.324**
Sexual anxiety			1	379**	488**	.529**	.694**
Sexual self-efficacy				1	.730**	191*	402**
Sexual self-esteem					1	223**	417**
Sexual fear						1	.296**
Sexual depression							1

*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (two-tailed); **Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (two-tailed)

Although, sexual depression has no significant relationship with general self-concept, but between sexual-esteem and general sexual self-concept there was a positive correlation.

According to the Pearson correlation results, there was a positive significant relationship between general self-concept and self-esteem in men and single participants (r = 0.32, P = 0.023), (r = 0.30, P = 0.008) but there was no significant relationship between women and married blind people. Also, there were a negative significant relationship between general self-concept and sexual self-esteem (r = -0.34, P = 0.017) in men. Among women and married participants, there were positive significant relationship between general self-concept and sexual anxiety (r = 0.27, P = 0.008), (r = 0.25, P = 0.04), and negative significant relationship with Sexual self-efficacy in men and single participants (r = -0.33, P = 0.002), (r = -0.35, P = 0.002), and also negative significant relationship with sexual selfesteem in both gender and single blind (r = -0.34, P = 0.017), (r = -0.34, P = 0.001), (r = -0.45, P, 0.0001) [Tables 4 and 5].

In women and single participants, there was a negative significant relationship between self-esteem with sexual self-efficacy (*r* = -0.36, *P* < 0.0001), (*r* = -0.39, *P* < 0.0001), and sexual self-esteem (*r* = -0.40, *P* < 0.0001), (*r* = -0.38, *P* = 0.001). Also, there is another correlation between variables in terms of gender and marital status [Tables 4 and 5].

DISCUSSION

The overall objective of the present study was descriptions of self-esteem and general and sexual self-concepts in blind people supported by Isfahan Province Welfare Organization. According to the obtained results, 65.2% of the participants had high self-esteem scores. When the environment is supportive of the visually impaired people, they are then helped to create and sustain their positive self-esteem and consequently develop social skills^[19] as the participations in this study supported by the Welfare Organization. Also, more than 50 (50.7%) participants achieved high score in general self-concept (neurotic selfconcept) and a significant positive relationship between selfesteem and general self-concept. Lifshitz, et al. (2007) and Beaty (1992) believed that self-concept in higher scores of visual impaired respects to defense mechanisms, they may cope with subordinated feelings by creating an ideal concept which is not genuine but can rise self-esteem.^[20,21] In a study on a group of ordinary women, Ramezani et al. (2011) also found a significant relationship between general selfconcept and self-esteem.^[22] Taylor et al. (2007) examined the relationship between self-concept and general health on a group of healthy students and reported a significant positive relationship.^[23] Studies such as Landazabal and Iturrioz (2009) have controversial results in relationship between self-concept and self-esteem. They showed that there is no significant differences in self-concept and self-esteem in the samples (subjects with and without visual impairment).^[15] Huurre's results indicated that compared to their sighted peers, people with visual disability have lower self-esteem, social skills, and academic achievement resulting in a need for being supported in psychosocial aspects.^[3] Considering the reciprocal relationship between general self-concept and self-esteem, general self-concept and social skills training is very important to improve self-esteem in the blind people and it makes them more socially compatible.[16,23] Behpajooh et al. (2004) studied the effectiveness of social skills training

Gender	Self-concept	Self-esteem	Sexual anxiety	Sexual	Sexual	Sexual	Sexual
				self-efficacy	self-esteem	fear	depressior
Men							
Self-concept	1	.328*	.191	166	343*	.224	.119
Self-esteem		1	.553**	084	233	.190	.334*
Sexual anxiety			1	388**	528**	.452**	.749**
Sexual self-efficacy				1	.742**	123	501**
Sexual self-esteem					1	114	535**
Sexual fear						1	.334*
Sexual depression							1
Women							
Self-concept	1	.132	.277**	330**	345**	.179	.161
Self-esteem		1	.478**	363**	409**	.283**	.320**
Sexual anxiety			1	419**	516**	.557**	.664**
Sexual self-efficacy				1	.714**	240*	400**
Sexual self-esteem					1	292**	406**
Sexual fear						1	.274**
Sexual depression							1

Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (two-tailed); "Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (two-tailed)

Marital status	Self-concept	Self-esteem	Sexual	Sexual	Sexual	Sexual	Sexual
			anxiety	self-efficacy	self-esteem	fear	depression
Married							
Self-concept	1	.001	.254*	168	202	.203	.118
Self-esteem		1	.359**	.014	244	127	.292*
Sexual anxiety			1	177	425**	.366**	.737**
Sexual self-efficacy				1	.682**	004	247
Sexual self-esteem					1	159	361**
Sexual fear						1	.240
Sexual depression							1
Single							
Self-concept	1	.302**	.193	351**	451**	.128	.135
Self-esteem		1	.533**	395**	386**	.402**	.320**
Sexual anxiety			1	454**	533**	.503**	.677**
Sexual self-efficacy				1	.761**	215	491**
Sexual self-esteem					1	240 [*]	446**
Sexual fear						1	.297**
Sexual depression							1

*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (two-tailed); **Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (two-tailed)

in enhancing self-esteem of blind students and found significant difference between the experimental and control groups indicating the effectiveness of social skills training in improving self-esteem closely related to self-concept.^[24]

The results of this study indicated that self-esteem and self-concept were not significantly related to gender of the blind. Salehi *et al.* (2013) showed no significant difference in self-esteem between men and women with physical disabilities and motor impairments.^[16]

Analysis of sexual self-concept's subscales indicated no significant difference between blind men and women. However, the results showed that marital status affects sexual self-concept so as subscales of sexual anxiety and sexual fear were significantly higher in single participants and subscales of sexual efficacy was significantly higher in married participants. In the Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Salehi *et al.* (2013) conducted a study and found that women gained significantly higher scores in almost all subscales of sexual self-concept (i.e. sexual self-concept, sexual anxiety, sexual self-efficacy, sexual self-esteem, sexual fear, and sexual depression) with the exception of the subscale of sexual self-esteem in which, no significant difference was observed between men and women.^[16] In a study done by Papadopoulos (2009), the level of sexual self-concept was very low among both blind and visually impaired youths. Moreover, he found that the level of sexual self-concept is significantly related to gender and the time and severity of visual impairment.^[25] Previous studies have shown that sexual self-concept is a psychological concept and its dimensions are related to various personal and social factors in an individual's life. It has also been indicated that married people have usually higher sexual self-concept compared to single people^[12] that can be explained through either that people with positive sexual self-concept tried to get married or that these people gained positive self-concept after marriage. McCabe *et al.* (2003) showed that disability affects both sexual self-esteem and sexual depression in men and women so that in cases of severe disabilities, sexual depression is high and sexual self-esteem is very low.^[26]

The present study results revealed that people with high self-esteem gained higher scores in sexual anxiety and lower scores in self-efficacy compared to people with low self-esteem. Moreover, sexual self-esteem was lower in people with lower self-esteem while sexual fear was higher in people with high self-esteem. Ziaei et al. (2013) mentioned the vagueness of sexual experience, lack of familiarity with the genitals of the opposite sex, lack of awareness about how to establish sexual relationships, the uncertainty of future sex life, and the possibility of harming the sexual partner as causes of sexual anxiety.[27] Deutsch and Hensel indicated that high scores in sexual depression and low scores in self-esteem are predictors of less inclination to have sex and lower sexual satisfaction scores.[13,28] Other studies have specified that people with high positive sexual self-concept tend to experience sexual relationships in future while those with low negative sexual self-concept tend less to experience sexual relationships in near future.^[29] Furthermore, people with high sexual self-concept talk about their sexual desires more freely, particularly when their interlocutors are people with similar level of sexual self-concept.^[13] Sexual self-concept can be affected by sexual experiences in adolescence.[28]

Studies have shown that people with different characteristics and different levels of sexual self-concept can be involved with high-risk sexual behaviors. Therefore, it is necessary to pay more attention to people's level of sexual self-concept to protect them from high-risk sexual behaviors and lead them toward safe sex.^[14] In another study conducted by Lifshitz *et al.*, two groups of people with and without visual disabilities (40 participants in each group) were compared regarding sexual self-concept and no significant difference was reported between them.^[21]

CONCLUSION

According to the obtained results in this study, we need to design a qualitative research to find the effective factors on positive correlation between general self-concept and negative sexual self-concept such as sexual anxiety and sexual fear, and negative correlation between positive sexual self-concept such as sexual self-efficacy and sexualesteem. Consequently, we can provide an individual counseling based on the sexual self-concept, if the blind or visually impaired people face with problems in their sexual relationships.

Limitations and strengths of the study

Some of the limitations of this study include samples' homogeneity, their being limited to a city, the absence of a comparison group without visual impairment in similar conditions. Sexual topic is a taboo especially for blind people who did not talk about it with others until this project. Therefore, we lost more participants in this study. Also, because the authors did not find a study with similar variables and tools inside and outside Iran, comparison and justification of the results did not cover a wide range of reasons.

One of the strengths of this study is giving importance to the sexual issues of visual impaired people as one of their essential requirements for a successful sex life to maintain and continue their married life.

Acknowledgments

This research was funded by the Isfahan University of Medical Sciences (registered number: 393622). We sincerely thank the manager of the Welfare Organization and her colleagues. Special thanks go to the blind young people who participated in the study.

Financial support and sponsorship

This study was funded by the Isfahan University of Medical Sciences (registered number: 393622).

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTIONS

MS contributed in the conception of the work, conducting the study concept and design, analysis and interpretation of data, revising the draft, approval of the final version of the manuscript, and agreed for all aspects of the work, approval of the final version of the manuscript, and agreed for all aspects of the work. TZ contributed in the conception of the work, conducting the study concept and design, Analysis and interpretation of data, drafting of the manuscript, revising the draft, critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content, approval of the final version of the manuscript, and agreed for all aspects of the work MS contributed in the conception of the work, approval of the final version of the manuscript, and agreed for all aspects of the work. TZ also contributed in the administrative, technical, and material support. AA contributed in the conception of the work, conducting the study concept and design, acquisition of data, drafting of the manuscript, revising the draft, approval of the final version of the manuscript, and agreed for all aspects of the work. KSH contributed in the conception of the work, revising the draft, approval of the final version of the manuscript, and agreed for all aspects of the work. BSH contributed in the conception of the work, revising the draft, approval of the final version of the manuscript, and agreed for all aspects of the work.

REFERENCES

- Organisation WH. Disabilities and Rehabilitation. 2014. Available from: http://www.who.int/disabilities/world_report/2011/en/. [Last accessed on 2014 Nov 13].
- Resnikoff S, Pascolini D, Etya'ale D, Kocur I, Pararajasegaram R, Pokharel GP, *et al.* Global data on visual impairment in the year 2002. Bull World Health Organ 2004;82:844-51.
- Huurre TM, Aro HM. Psychosocial development among adolescents with visual impairment. Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry 1998;7:73-8.
- Simon W, Gagnon J. Sexual Conduct: The Social Sources of Human Sexuality. Chicago: Hutchinson of London Transaction Publishers; 2011.
- Antonucci TC, Peggs JF, Marquez JT. The relationship between self-esteem and physical health in a family practice population. Fam Pract Res J 1989;9:65-72.
- Peuskensb J, Knapend GPK. Comparison of changes in physical self-concept, global self-esteem, depression and anxiety following two different psychomotor therapy programs in nonpsychotic psychiatric inpatients. Psychother Psychosom 2005;74:353-61.
- Mojarrad Kahani AH, Ghanavi S. The efficacy of effective communication skills training on the self-esteem of girls with physical - mobility disability. J Res Rehabil Sci 2012;1:263-71.
- Marsh HW, Byrne BM, Shavelson RJ. A multifaceted academic self-concept: Its hierarchical structure and its relation to academic achievement. J Educ Psychol 1988;80:366-80.
- O'Sullivan LF, Meyer-Bahlburg HF, McKeague IW. The development of the sexual self-concept inventory for early adolescent girls. Psychol Women Q 2006;30:139-49.
- Ziaei T, Merghati KF, Salehi M, Farajzadegan Z. Sexual Self Concept in Mate Selection: Mixed Methods. Isfahan: Isfahan University of Medical Sciences; 2013. p. 243-70.
- Snell WE Jr, Fisher TD, Miller RS. Development of the sexual awareness questionnaire: Components, reliability, and validity. Ann Sex Res 1991;4:65-92.
- 12. Snell Jr WE. New Directions in the Psychology of Human Sexuality: Research and Theory. Cape Girardearu, MO: Snell Publications; 2001.

- 13. Deutsch AR. A test of a conceptual model of sexual self-concept and its relation to other dimensions of sexuality. 2012.
- Dorlac DA, Snell WE Jr. Personality traits and sexuality among female university students. URJHS 2007;20.
- Garaigordobil M, Bernarás E. Self-concept, self-esteem, personality traits and psychopathological symptoms in adolescents with and without visual impairment. Span J Psychol 2009;12:149-60.
- Salehi M, Kharaz Tavakol H, Shabani M, Ziaei T. The relationship between self-esteem and sexual self-concept in people with physicalmotor disabilities. Iran Red Crescent Med J 2015; 17:e25359.
- Ziaei T, Khoei EM, Salehi M, Farajzadegan Z. Psychometric properties of the Farsi version of modified Multidimensional Sexual Self-concept Questionnaire. Iran J Nurs Midwifery Res 2013;18:439-45.
- Nourbakhsh P, Hassanpour GR. A comparison of self-esteem and self-concept between school male student athletes and nonathletes from educational districts in Ahwaz and investigate their relationships with the students' academic achievement. Harakat Journals 2004;21:19-32.
- Fotiadou E, Christodoulou P, Soulis SG, Tsimaras VK, Mousouli M. Motor development and self-esteem of children and adolescents with visual impairment. Journal of Education and Practice 2014;37:97-106.
- 20. Beaty LA. Adolescent self-perception as a function of vision loss. Adolescence 1992;27:707-14.
- Lifshitz H, Hen I, Weisse I. Self-concept, adjustment to blindness, and quality of friendship among adolescents with visual impairments. J Vis Impair Blind 2007;101:97-106.
- Ramezani N, Dolatian M, Shams J, Alavi H. The relationship between self-esteem and sexual dysfunction and satisfaction in women. AMUJ 2012;14:57-65.
- Taylor LD, Davis-Kean P, Malanchuk O. Self-esteem, academic self-concept, and aggression at school. Aggress Behav 2007; 33:130-6.
- Behpajooh A, Khanjani M, Heidari M, Shokohi Yekta M. The effect of social skills training on self-esteem of visually impaired male students. Research in Psychological Health 2007;1:29-37.
- 25. Papadopoulos K. The impact of individual characteristics in self-esteem and locus of control of young adults with visual impairments. Res Dev Disabil 2014;35:671-5.
- McCabe MP, Taleporos G. Sexual esteem, sexual satisfaction, and sexual behavior among people with physical disability. Arch Sex Behav 2003;32:359-69.
- Ziaei T, Ziaei F. The Role of Sexual Self-Concept, Five Factor Personality in Risky Sex Behavior. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell; 2013.
- Hensel DJ, Fortenberry JD, O'Sullivan LF, Orr DP. The developmental association of sexual self-concept with sexual behavior among adolescent women. J Adolesc 2011;34:675-84.
- 29. Gibbons FX, Gerrard M. Predicting young adults' health risk behavior. J Pers Soc Psychol 1995;69:505-17.