

Spouse role in the problem of drug abuse

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This study was conducted in a private psychiatric hospital in Cairo during 2001-2002 to find out the relation between the attitude and behavior of wives and their addict husbands and the main conflict between them that lead to aggravate the addiction. Thirty addict patients and their spouses were selected. Patients were diagnosed according to the criteria of the DSM-IV-TR (2001). The control group consisted of 30 normal male persons and their spouses. All were assessed using marital satisfaction inventory (MSI), Hamilton anxiety rating scale (HARS), Hamilton depression rating scale (HDRS) and Guilford aggression scale. The Results showed that regarding marital satisfaction inventory (MSI), there are differences between couples of drug abusing husbands and the control group. The couples of drug abusing husbands scored higher than the control group on conventionalization global distress, affect ill communication, problem solving ill communication time together, sexual dissatisfaction, conflict over child rearing, disagreement over finance and dissatisfaction with children. There were no differences between couples of drug abusing husband and the control group in history of family distress. In role orientation, the wives of addicts prefer traditional roles more than those of the control group, while there were no differences between addict husband and normal husbands in role orientation. Regarding Guilford aggression scale, the couples of drug abusing husband had higher level of aggression than the control group. Regarding Hamilton anxiety and depression scale, wives of addict husbands had higher level of depression and anxiety than those of the control group. There were significant differences in agreement and disagreement between the couples of drug abusing husbands and couples of control group in global distress, sexual dissatisfaction and role orientation