

Abstract

Background: The consequences of illness and hospitalization of the child are one of the main sources of psychological stress for the family. Parents use a variety of coping strategies to mitigate these consequences. Choosing the type of parental coping strategy has a very important impact on how they cope with stress. Parents' personality traits are very important in this choice. In order to maintain peace of mind in parents and children and provide better health services, it is necessary to identify these consequences.

Aim: Determining and comparing psychological outcomes based on coping skills and personality traits in parents of children admitted to PICU and parents of children hospitalized in other wards of Bu-Ali Hospital in Ardabil in 1398.

Methods and material: This research is a cross-sectional-analytical study. The research population includes all parents of children hospitalized in Bu-Ali hospital in Ardabil. 105 samples were selected from the parents of children admitted to PICU and 105 samples were selected from the parents of children admitted to other wards. Samples of the two groups were matched. In this study, demographic questionnaire, Lazarus-Folkman coping skills questionnaire, DASS stress, anxiety and depression questionnaire and short form of NEO personality traits questionnaire were used.

Results: Comparing the parents of children admitted to PICU with other wards, the level of stress ($P < 0.001$) and depression ($P = 0.007$), emotional coping strategy ($P < 0.001$) and neuropsychological personality traits ($P = 0.004$) in parents of children admitted to PICU was significantly higher. It was also found that there is a significant direct relationship between emotion-oriented coping skills in the PICU group with neuropsychological and extroversion-introversion personality traits, and a significant inverse relationship with the personality component of the desire to gain new experiences.

Conclusion: Parents of children admitted to PICU are significantly more prone to psychological distress. Therefore, their need to services and psychological support seems to be very necessary.

Keywords: stress, anxiety, depression, coping skills, personality traits, pediatric intensive care unit