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FACTORS AFFECTING THEIR RECOGNITION AND NEED FOR TREATMENT OF SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION IN KOREAN WOMEN

Hypothesis / aims of study

This study is performed to assess the factors affecting recognition of sexual dysfunction and need for treatment of their sexual dysfunction in Korean women

Study design, materials and methods

935 Korean women were randomly selected and asked to fill the Korean version of Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI) and specially designed questionnaire.: The patients who answered 'Yes' to at least 1 among 6 domains of FSFI were considered to have sexual dysfunction, and were divided into 2 groups. The Recognized Group (RG) was defined as the patients who recognized their problems as answered 'Yes'. The Unrecognized Group (URG) was defined as the patients who did not recognized their problems as answered 'No'. In both groups, several socioepidemiolgic contributing factors were analyzed by multiple logistic regression analysis

Results

The prevalence of Korean female sexual dysfunction was 46.1%. The prevalence of recognized sexual dysfunction was 21.5%, whereas that of unrecognized sexual dysfunction was 24.6%. Young subjects shows significantly more positive attitude for sex than old subjects. 70% of the subjects answered that they do not need treatment for the sexual dysfunction. Sexual desire, sexual arousal, dyspareunia, lubrication, and satisfaction were influencing factors of sexual dysfunction in the recognized sexual dysfunction group. For the unrecognized group, sexual arousal, sexual desire, orgasm, dyspareunia and satisfaction were found as important factors. Significant factors that influenced sexual dysfunction were smoking status, conversation with a partner, partner's attitude to sex, length of marriage, number of births, her own concept of sex, and degree of sexual satisfaction.

Interpretation of results

The prevalence of sexual dysfunction in Korean women who participated in this study was 46.1%. The recognized dysfunction group showed a positive attitude to sex, while the unrecognized group showed a negative attitude. Significant factors that influenced sexual dysfunction were smoking status, conversation with a partner, partner's attitude to sex, length of marriage, number of births, her own concept of sex, and degree of sexual satisfaction. It was also shown that the unsatisfied group with their sexual life did not express the need for treatment.

Concluding message

These results suggested that social and cultural backgrounds for Korean women should be considered in the diagnosis and treatment of female sexual dysfunction.

Influencing Factors of Female Sexual Dysfunction
Multinomial logistic regression analysis shows that significant factors that influenced sexual dysfunction were smoking status, conversation with a partner, partner's attitude to sex, length of marriage, number of births, her own concept of sex, and degree of sexual satisfaction.

Logistic Regression Ansalysis of Risk Factors
On Recognized Female Sexual Dysfunction

variable*		estimate	S.E.	x^2-value	p-value	OR	95%CI	
smoke		1.016	0.597	2.889	0.019	2.761	(0.856	0.896)
partner	**weak**	0.531	0.404	1.721	0.190	1.700	(0.700	3.756)
activity	**moderate**	-0.237	0.301	0.621	0.431	0.789	0.437	1.423)

		estimate	S.E.	x²-value	p-value	OR	95%CI	
commu.		0.749	0.252	8.885	0.003	2.116	(1.291	3.466)
attitude for sex	**moderate**	-0.286	0.253	1.265	0.261	0.752	(0.458	1.236)
	negative	-1.064	0.636	2.803	0.094	0.345	(0.099	1.199)
	somewhat	0.506	0.366	1.905	0.018	1.658	(0.809	3.400)
satisfaction	**moderate**	0.969	0.274	12.479	0.000	2.636	(1.540	4.514)
	dissatisfied	2.305	0.367	39.386	0.000	10.025	(4.880	20.594)

* reference group: Smoke(no), Partner activity(strong), Communication(yes), Attitude for sex(positive), Satisfaction(satisfied)

**Logistic Regression Ansalysis of Risk Factors
On Recognized Female Sexual Dysfunction**

variable*		estimate	S.E.	x²-value	p-value	OR	95%CI	
Age	30-39	-0.519	0.253	4.198	0.040	0.595	(0.352	0.0978)
	40-49	-0.219	0.258	0.555	0.415	0.803	(0.475	1.359)
	50-59	0.061	0.351	0.030	0.853	0.151	(0.534	2.116)
	60	0.713	0.496	2.063	0.151	2.099	(0.771	5.394)
commu.	**no**	0.459	0.167	7.603	0.006	1.583	(1.142	2.194)
Religion	**buddhist**	0.569	0.342	2.765	0.096	1.766	(1.142	2.194)
	christian	0.883	0.326	7.344	0.007	2.418	(0.093	3.451)
	none	0.713	0.496	2.063	0.151	2.039	(1.277	4.578)
Attitude for sex	**negative**	0.238	0.248	0.918	0.338	1.268	(0.780	2.062)
	modrate	-0.614	0.202	9.217	0.002	0.541	(0.364	0.805)

* reference group: Age(20-29), Communication(Yes), Religion(catholic),
Satisfaction(satisfied), Attitude for sex(positive)