Abstract

Introduction and Objectives: Children with cerebral palsy display prominent motor dysfunction associated with other developmental disorders. Parenting a child with cerebral palsy presents a number of challenges and stresses. The huge responsibility of mothers for rearing and caring their child has reduced their mental health level and has pronounced them to mental disorders. The purpose of the present research is the comparison of mothers mental health, physical complaint, obsession-compulsion, interpersonal relationship, sensitivity level of ordinary children and children with cerebral palsy of Kermanshah city.

Method and Materials: The study is case-control type, which contains 60 mothers testers contain 30 mothers of cerebral palsy children which have been selected by simple random method among mothers of CP children and 30 mothers of normal children as control which have been similar in respect of sex, age, socio-economic class and education. The participants answered the Scl-90R questionnaire. After completing the questionnaire, the collected data by statistical program spss-15 and T-test, the independent groups analyzed.

Results: Analysis of findings showed that there is a meaningful difference (t=6/330, p=0/001) among overall level of mental health of mothers cerebral palsy and normal children, and their mental health level is lower than normal children. Also, testers performance of mothers of two groups at physical complaint (t=7/022, p=0/004), obsession-compulsion (t=13/750, p=0/001) and sensitivity about interpersonal relationship (t=4/479, p=0/018) there was a meaningful difference.

Conclusion: In respect of research findings, the overall level of mental health of mothers children with cerebral palsy was lower than normal children. About the matter, morbid symptoms scales of this group was higher than normal children and she has proned to mental disorders. Thus Clinical professionals should be concerned about parental stress in parents of children with cerebral palsy and provide resources to support such parents.

Keywords: cerebral palsy, mental health, physical complaint, obsession-compulsion, interpersonal relationship sensitivity.