

ORIGINAL PAPER

Developing the Scale for Assessing Psychosocial Problems Experienced by Women during their Infertility

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Abstract

Aim: The purpose of this study is to develop a measurement tool for retrospectively assessing the psychosocial problems experienced by women during their infertility.

Materials and methods: This study has a retrospective methodology. 204 women residing in Antalya, who accepted to participate in the study, had undergone infertility treatment in the same city and had been successfully treated, and in consequence of the infertility treatment, have at least one living child between 0-6 years old. Personal information form and the Scale for Assessing the Problems Experienced during Infertility were applied through face-to-face interview method to the women who accepted to participate in the study. The interviews were conducted in approximately 20 minutes at their workplaces for the working women, and at their home for the remaining participants.

Results: Cronbach's alpha value of the items of the scale was found to be 0.92. Adjusted Item-Total Score correlations of the items ranged between 0.32 and 0.72, and they are statistically significant $p < 0.05$. Exploratory factor analysis revealed 10 sub-factors in the scale. It was found that all of these factors explain 63.32% of the total variance.

Conclusions: The study shows that the "Scale for Assessing Psychosocial Experienced During Infertility" is applicable and reliable, and that it can be used to identify the psychosocial problems experienced by women during their treatment, who were treated for infertility and became a mother.

Key words: Infertility, psychosocial problems, scale for assessing psychosocial experienced during infertility, develop