Psychosocial aspects of functioning of infertile women in comparison to healthy mothers

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Purpose: The aim of the research project was to analyze differences in psychological functioning between healthy mothers and infertile women treated with ART methods in Poland, where the acceptance of these methods is still lower than in western Europe countries therefore the social stigma of infertility exists.

Methods: 100 female participants took part in the study: 50 mothers and 50 infertile women. Mean age of healthy participants was 30.7 (SD=4.81) and the mean age of infertile participants was 31 (SD=3.9). The study was conducted in a matched pair design. The groups were homogeneous in terms of education, place of residence, form and duration of the relationship between partners.

The difference in life satisfaction was measured with the SWLS (Diener, Emmons, Larsen, Griffin, 1985) in Juczyński's adaptation (2009). Perceived stress was measured with PSS-10 (Cohen, Kamarck, Mermelstein, 1983) in the polish adaptation (Juczyński, Ogińska-Bulik, 2009). The measurement of resilience was made using the Lifespan Individual Resilience Scale in Polish adaptation by Malina (2016). The quality of relationship was also measured using: Relationship Quality Inventory (IJZ) in polish adaptation by Suwalska-Barancewicz, Liberska and Izdebski (2015). Sexual satisfaction was measured with the use of Sexual Satisfaction Questionaire by Nomejko, Dolińska-Zygmunt (2012).

Results and conclusion: The preliminary analysis indicate a statistically significantly differences between the two compared groups of women.

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