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The relationship between the curtailment of personal autonomy by family and the quality of life of the elderly

Zahra Pishnamazi¹, Majideh Heravi-Karimooi^{*2}, Nahid Rejeh², Afsaneh Damyar³

1. Instructor, Shahed University, College of Nursing & Midwifery, Tehran, Iran.
2. Associate Professor, Elderly Care Research Center- Shahed University, College of Nursing & Midwifery, Tehran, Iran.
3. Shahed University, College of Nursing & Midwifery, Tehran, Iran.

Background: Evaluation of quality of life is very important in the elderly. One of the forms of violence and abuse in the family is forced by family members to the elderly. Curtailment of personal autonomy is a kind of abuse that causing the loss of individual identity and independence. This study aimed to determine the relationship curtailment of personal autonomy by family members and quality of life of the elderly members Jahandidegan centers in Tehran.

Methods: A cross-sectional study of 180 elderly participants (122 women and 58 men) aged 65 years and older was conducted in early 2013 in Tehran. Data were collected through face to face interviews with the elderly informants. Cognitive disorders determined by gaining 6 score or higher in Iranian Version of the Abbreviated Mental Test Score. Demographic information questionnaire, curtailment of personal autonomy Questionnaire (10 items) and SF-36(8 domains) were completed. Data using the software spss-16 and chi-square test and Mann-Whitney tests were analyzed.

Results and conclusions: The results showed curtailment of personal autonomy impact in all aspects of quality of life and abused elderly with experience curtailment of personal autonomy had less the power strip with all aspects, especially the vitality domain of SF-36 the difference was more obvious (44/55 vs. 39/06) ($p < 0/0002$). Elderly quality of life without the experience curtailment of personal autonomy was better than the experience in this field.

Conclusion: Considering the increasing number of elderly people in our country, the curtailment of personal autonomy may reduce the quality of life and it is necessary to prevent the consequences of participation in multilateral organizations must be involved.

Key words: Elderly, Quality of life, Curtailment of personal autonomy, Family.