

# Clinical Trial Protocol

## Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

09 Jun 2026

### The Effect of Emotional Focused Group Counseling on Emotional spouse Abuse Behavior, and Marital Satisfaction among the Iranian Elderly Couple

#### Protocol summary

##### Summary

Goal: The main goal is to examine the effect of emotional focused group counseling on frequency of emotionally abusive behaviors, and marital satisfaction in elderly couples. Design: This interventional study with two groups (case and control) has been designed to examine the effects of emotional focused group counseling on elderly couples with emotional wife. Sampling and sample size: Using a power of 0.95, with a moderate effect size of 0.25, and a repeated measure ANOVA, a minimum of 44 participants is needed. Then 22 couples will be in experimental and 22 couples in control group. For sampling at first The elderly couples who refer to primary health care centers will be assessed for emotional spouse abuse, and those who met the inclusion criteria, and accept to participate in the research will be selected and assigned, randomly in two groups. Pre- and post-intervention assessments and two month after intervention follow up will be carried out to measure the frequency of emotional abusive behaviors, and marital satisfaction in two groups. Eligibility: The inclusion criteria are the aged couples  $\geq 60$  years who have a positive history of only emotional wife abuse (not the other type or mix type of abuse), Able to communicate verbally, Able to provide informed consent, and the exclusion criteria are contained: History of major psychiatric disorder (such as schizophrenia), or mental impairment, currently abusing drugs or alcohol, and using the antidepressant, anti anxiety, and narcotic drugs, currently enrolled in any other psychological treatment program, and difficulty with ADLs. Intervention: 8 session's 90 min group sessions twice a week, 4-5 elderly couples in each group. Before the starting each groups a 90 min preparation session will be arranged for all the members. Sessions counseling are designed based on the nine steps of FET-C which has been explained by Greenberg and & S. M Johnson (1998)

. The main outcome variables: Emotional abuse will be measured by Multidimensional Measure of Emotional Abuse Questionnaire.(MMEAQ) which was made by Murphy &Hoover, 1999, , and Marital satisfaction will be evaluated by Marital Satisfaction Question for Older People (MSQFOP) by Stephen N. Haynes and et al (1992).

#### General information

##### Acronym

##### IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT2013111715426N1**  
Registration date: **2014-01-24, 1392/11/04**  
Registration timing: **registered\_while\_recruiting**

Last update:

Update count: **0**

##### Registration date

2014-01-24, 1392/11/04

##### Registrant information

###### Name

Maryam Hazrati

###### Name of organization / entity

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

###### Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

###### Phone

+98 71 3631 3949

###### Email address

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##### Recruitment status

**Recruitment complete**

##### Funding source

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

##### Expected recruitment start date

2013-10-26, 1392/08/04

**Expected recruitment end date**

2014-09-26, 1393/07/04

**Actual recruitment start date**

empty

**Actual recruitment end date**

empty

**Trial completion date**

empty

**Scientific title**

The Effect of Emotional Focused Group Counseling on Emotional spouse Abuse Behavior, and Marital Satisfaction among the Iranian Elderly Couple

**Public title**

Emotional focus group counseling for elderly couples

**Purpose**

Treatment

**Inclusion/Exclusion criteria**

The inclusion criteria are the aged  $\geq 60$  years, Able to communicate verbally, Able to provide informed consent, and the exclusion criteria are contained: History of major psychiatric disorder (such as schizophrenia), or mental impairment, currently abusing drugs or alcohol, and using the antidepressant, anti anxiety, and narcotic drugs, currently enrolled in any other psychological treatment program, and difficulty with ADLs

**Age**

From **60 years** old to **85 years** old

**Gender**

Both

**Phase**

N/A

**Groups that have been masked**

*No information*

**Sample size**

Target sample size: **95**

**Randomization (investigator's opinion)**

Randomized

**Randomization description****Blinding (investigator's opinion)**

Single blinded

**Blinding description****Placebo**

Not used

**Assignment**

Parallel

**Other design features****Secondary Ids**

empty

**Ethics committees****1****Ethics committee****Name of ethics committee**

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

**Street address**

Fatemeh (P.B.U.H) School of Nursing& Midwifery

Shiraz-Iran P.O. Box: 71345-1359

**City**

Shiraz

**Postal code**

13119- 71936

**Approval date**

2013-10-08, 1392/07/16

**Ethics committee reference number**

ct-92-6705

**2****Ethics committee****Name of ethics committee**

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71944

**Approval date**

2013-09-23, 1392/07/01

**Ethics committee reference number**

92/244095

**Health conditions studied****1****Description of health condition studied**

Spouse emotional abuse behavior

**ICD-10 code**

R40-46

**ICD-10 code description**

Symptoms and signs involving cognition, perception, emotional state and behaviour

**Primary outcomes****1****Description**

Psychological spouse abuse

**Timepoint**

Before intervention, immedietly after the last seesion of intervention and two month later

**Method of measurement**

Multidimensional Measure of Emotional Abuse Questionnaire.(MMEAQ)

**Secondary outcomes****1****Description**

Marital Satisfaction

**Timepoint**

Before intervention , immedietlt after, and 2 month later

## Method of measurement

Marital Satisfaction Question for Older People (MSQFOP)

## Intervention groups

### 1

#### Description

The 10 sessions counselling are designed based on the nine steps of EFT-C which has been explained by Greenberg and & S. M Johnson (1998) ,and will be conducted as follows: Before the starting the 9 main session of counseling we develop a session for members' preparation to share understanding of the problem, goals, to achieve the nature of emotional abuse, and the rules of participating in groups. Then 9 sessions will be started two sessions per week, each sessions will be conducted by one step Step 1: Identify the relational conflict. Step 2: Identify the negative interaction cycle where conflict is expressed. Step 3: Access unacknowledged emotions, attachment-oriented emotions. Step 4: Reframe the problem in terms of the cycle, underlying emotions that attend it, and attachment needs Step 5: Promote identification with disowned attachment needs and aspects of self Step 6: Promote partner's acceptance of the other experience. Step 7: Facilitate expression of needs and wants to restructure the interaction based on new bounding events. Step 8: Facilitate the emergence of new solutions to old problems Step 9: Consolidation new positions and cycles of attachment behavior .

#### Category

Behavior

### 2

#### Description

The Control group will not receive any intervention. They will continue their living as routine.

#### Category

Other

## Recruitment centers

### 1

#### Recruitment center

##### Name of recruitment center

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

##### Full name of responsible person

Maryam Hazrati

##### Street address

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Fatemeh (P.B.U.H) School of Nursing& Midwifery Shiraz-Iran  
P.O. Box: 71345-1359

##### City

Shiraz

## Sponsors / Funding sources

### 1

#### Sponsor

##### Name of organization / entity

Research center of Shiraz University of Medical Science

##### Full name of responsible person

Dr. Hatam

##### Street address

the central bulding of Shiraz University of Medical Science. Zand street.Shiraz

##### City

Shiraz

#### Grant name

#### Grant code / Reference number

#### Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?

Yes

#### Title of funding source

Research center of Shiraz University of Medical Science

#### Proportion provided by this source

100

#### Public or private sector

empty

#### Domestic or foreign origin

empty

#### Category of foreign source of funding

empty

#### Country of origin

#### Type of organization providing the funding

empty

## Person responsible for general inquiries

#### Contact

##### Name of organization / entity

Shiraz University of Medical Science

##### Full name of responsible person

Maryam Hazrati

##### Position

Candidate of PhD Institute of Gerontology UPM  
Universities of Putra Malaysia

##### Other areas of specialty/work

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## Person responsible for scientific inquiries

#### Contact

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**Full name of responsible person**

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**Fax****Email****Web page address****Sharing plan****Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)**

*empty*

**Study Protocol**

*empty*

**Statistical Analysis Plan**

*empty*

**Informed Consent Form**

*empty*

**Clinical Study Report**

*empty*

**Analytic Code**

*empty*

**Data Dictionary**

*empty*

**Person responsible for updating data****Contact****Name of organization / entity**

Shiraz University of Medical Science

**Full name of responsible person**

Dr. Farkhondeh Sharif

**Position**