A Structural Equation Model on Quality of Life of Mothers of Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

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Abstract

Purpose
The aim of this study was to explore how characteristics of ADHD children affect social support for mothers, parenting stress, parenting sense of competence, coping, and quality of life. The conceptual model was based on the Lazarus and Folkman’s stress-evaluation-coping theory.

Methods
Data were collected 208 mothers of children with ADHD. Data were analysed using SPSS 18.0 and AMOS 18.0 programs.

Results
The proposed model was good fit for the data based on the model fit indices. Parenting stress, parenting sense of competence and coping directly affected quality of life but characteristics of the children and social support had only an indirect effect. The explanatory power of these variables was 52.1%.

Conclusion
The results of this study indicate that nursing strategies to increase social support for mothers with ADHD children, lowers parenting stress, improves parenting sense of competence, and guides the parents to choose appropriate coping. In particular, as social support has the strongest influence on the quality of life, it is necessary to develop nursing intervention programs that utilize social support for parents with ADHD children.