

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Response to comments on Rashid et al. (*J Pak Med Assoc.* Vol 71, No-10, October 2021)

Impact of preoperative surgical anxiety on postoperative surgical recovery among surgical patients: Role of surgical coping

Asma Rashid, Muhammad Naveed Riaz

Dear Editor, We appreciate the comments of Dr. Zile-Ali Ahsan et. al. on our article titled "Impact of preoperative surgical anxiety on postoperative surgical recovery among surgical patients: Role of surgical coping" published in JPMA October 2021 Vol-71. We take this opportunity to place our re-joinder below each comment. We also acknowledge that such valuable criticism is a learning point for us authors and readers.

Comment-1

Answer: The original article of Surgical Recovery Scale by Paddison et al.,¹ has mentioned that this scale is valid for other surgical procedures as well. Although, the author has not mentioned that the order of surgical procedures would be major or minor. In the present article, this scale has been used for minor surgeries in which the scale has shown satisfactory performance in terms of internal consistency. While taking permission from the authors before using this scale, the authors allowed us to use it for the mentioned surgeries in the proposal.

So, it is to conclude, that this scale was originally developed and validated for open or laparoscopic colonic surgeries but in the discussion section of this article it has been stated, that it can be applied on other surgical procedures too.

Comment-2

Answer: The exact follow-up duration was 15 days after the surgery had been completed. The researcher approached the participating patients at their 1st follow-up visit to their doctor at hospital.²

Department of Psychology, University of Sargodha, Sargodha, Pakistan.

Correspondence: Asma Rashid. e-mail:asma.rashid3344@gmail.com

Comment-3

Answer: It is already mentioned in the article that the coping strategies used by patients for pre-surgical anxiety were only the moderated coping strategies³ No drugs were used.

Comment-4

Answer: The information seeking coping strategy is defining the link between patient-practitioner relationships. The more the information about surgical procedure is shared with the patient, the more speedy is the recovery.^{4,5} In this study, patients who asked for more information and showed interest in seeking information about the surgical procedures were able to relax and were less anxious as compared to those who were not showing interest in seeking information regarding their surgical procedure.

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