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COMPARISON THE EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMPONENTS OF SUICIDAL PATIENTS AND NON-CLINICAL SAMPLES

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Introduction and aim: Based on emotional intelligence (EI) Theory it was expected that EI component differences would likely be obtained on variables including problem-solving, happiness, stress-tolerance, self-actualization, interpersonal relationship. So the purpose of the current study was compare the emotional intelligence (EI) components in suicidal patients and non-clinical samples.

Method: A total of 60 participants took part in this study, including 30 patients (12 male, 18 female) who had recently (in the past three days) attempted suicide, and 30 non-clinical participants. Sampling was arranged so that there were no significant differences among groups in age, education, gender or marital status. All participants completed the bar-on EI questionnaire (90 item version). The bar-on EI questionnaire can measure the ability to understand, interpret, and control one's emotions. Data were analyzed using t-test and Chi square formula.

Results: Findings of the current study indicated significant differences among groups on the EI levels. The two groups were differentiated on problem-solving ($T=-2.316$ $df=58$, $p<.05$), happiness ($T=-3.065$ $df=58$, $p<.05$), stress-tolerance ($T=-2.011$ $df=58$, $p<.05$), and self-actualization ($T=-2.579$ $df=58$, $p<.05$).

Conclusion: The results of the current study are congruent with the other researches in this field. Further studies are necessary to confirm these findings, but the results imply that EI education program may be relevant to reducing risk of suicidal behavior in young peoples.