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(Global Assessment of Recent Stress Scale)

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(2)	(St	ress Response Inve	ntory)	
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(3)	(Coping Scale)		
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Lazarus	19			•
	50	8	,	(confrontive
coping),	(distancin	ig), (self-c	ontrolling),	
(seeki	ing social support),	(accepting	responsibil	ity), -
(escape	- avoidance),	(planful p	roblem - solv	ving),

가(positive reappraisal)

(4) (Pain Discomfort Scale)

Jensen Pain Discomfort Scale(PDS)²⁰

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Cronbach's 0.747 , - r 0.872
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III.

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Table 1

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Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics of backache patients and controls

	Backache	Normal			
	patients N=80(%)	control N=100(%)	statistics	df	p
Age(years) Mean ± S.D.	31.7 ± 11.4	32.0 ± 9.2	t = 0.19	178	.85
Sex Male Female	32 (40.0) 48 (60.0)	44(44.0) 56(56.0)	² =0.29	1	.59
Education (years) Mean ± S.D.	14.7 ± 2.8	14.5 ± 2.2	t=-0.63	178	.53
In come (1,000 w on/m onth)	333.8 ± 103.7	335.0 ± 105.8	t = 0.08	178	.94
Marriage Married Single	32 (40.0) 44 (55.0)	48(48.0) 48(48.0)	² =1.40	1	.24
Occupation Professional Nonprofessional Absent	22(27.5) 21(26.3) 37(46.3)	26(26.0) 31(31.0) 43(43.0)	² =0.49	2	.78
Religion Yes No	38 (47.5) 42 (52.5)	42(42.0) 58(58.0)	² =0.54	1	.46
Duration of illness(months) Mean ± S.D.	48.8 ± 58.2				

S.D.: Standard deviation

(T able 4).

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Table 2. Comparison of perceived stressors between backache patients and normal controls

	Backache patients (N=80) Mean ± S.D.	Normal controls (N=100) Mean ± S.D.	t	df	p
W or k/Job/School	3.8 ± 2.1	3.1 ± 1.7	2.50	178	.01
Interpersonal	3.0 ± 2.1	2.0 ± 1.4	2.08	178	.04
Changes in relationship	2.2 ± 2.6	1.9 ± 1.1	2.04	178	.04
Sickness/Injury	3.2 ± 2.2	1.8 ± 1.2	5.16	178	.00
Financial	2.5 ± 1.8	2.4 ± 1.2	.40	178	.69
Unusual happenings	1.8 ± 1.8	1.9 ± 1.3	70	178	.47
Changes/No changes in routine	2.0 ± 1.3	2.3 ± 1.4	- 1.61	178	.11
T ot al	18.4 ± 7.5	15.6 ± 6.6	2.61	178	.01

N: Number

S.D.: Standard deviation

Table 3. Comparison of stress responses between backance patients and normal controls

	Backache patients (N=80) Mean ± S.D.	Normal controls (N=100) Mean ± S.D.	t	df	p
T en sion	3.9 ± 2.9	3.4 ± 2.4	1.2	177	.22
Aggression	2.0 ± 3.0	1.6 ± 1.8	1.1	177	.27
Somatization	1.8 ± 1.7	2.2 ± 1.9	- 1.7	178	.09
Anger	4.2 ± 3.3	3.7 ± 2.5	1.2	178	.22
Depression	5.6 ± 4.3	4.8 ± 3.4	1.4	177	.17
Fatigue	5.3 ± 2.9	4.3 ± 2.2	2.6	178	.01
Frustration	5.8 ± 4.5	5.2 ± 3.9	1.1	178	.28
T otal	28.6 ± 17.9	25.3 ± 15.3	1.2	175	.11

t : Student's t-test

S.D.: Standard deviation

Table 4. Comparison of coping strategies between backache patients and normal controls

	Backache patients N=80 Mean ± S.D.	Normal control N=100 Mean ± S.D.	t	df	p
Confrontation	8.1 ± 3.4	7.6 ± 2.9	.97	178	.34
Distancing	6.4 ± 2.6	6.3 ± 2.7	.08	178	.94
Self control	10.6 ± 4.9	9.9 ± 3.9	1.01	178	.31
Seeking social support	11.2 ± 4.6	10.1 ± 3.3	1.71	178	.09
Acceptance	6.6 ± 3.1	6.1 ± 2.8	.98	178	.33
Escape avoidance	6.5 ± 4.1	7.1 ± 3.7	96	178	.34
Planful problem solving	10.7 ± 5.4	9.1 ± 4.1	2.13	178	.03
Positive reappraisal	13.2 ± 5.7	10.7 ± 4.2	3.24	178	.00

t : Student's t-test

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3.
                          (r=0.43, p<0.01)
(r=0.15, p>0.05)
           (r=0.46, p<0.01),
                                     (r=0.41, p<0.01),
(r=0.35, p<0.01),
                                    (r=0.21, p<0.05)
                                                     (r=0.38, p<0.01)
                                                             (r=0.63,
p<0.01), (r=0.61, p<0.01), (r=0.51, p<0.01), (r=0.27, p<0.05)
               (r=0.47, p<0.01)
       (r=0.43, p<0.01), (r=0.49, p<0.01), (r=0.34, p<0.01),
    (r=0.39, p<0.01), (r=0.44, p<0.01), (r=0.26, p<0.01),
(r=0.44, p<0.01)
                            (r=0.48, p<0.01)
                        (r=-0.21 \quad 0.14, p>0.05),
                                                (r=0.41, p<0.01)
4.
                                            (18.5 \pm 6.0 \text{ vs. } 18.3 \pm 8.4,
t=0.13, df=78, p=0.89), (r=-0.07, p>0.05), (r=-0.14, p>0.05),
        (r=0.11, p>0.05)
                                (r=0.06, p>0.05)
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 $(16.6 \pm 7.6 \text{ vs. } 14.8 \pm 5.7, \text{ } t=1.31, \text{ } df=98, \text{ } p=0.19),$ (r=0.17, p>0.05), (r=-0.06, p>0.05) , (r=-0.26, p<0.01) .

 $(24.5 \pm 18.3 \text{ vs. } 31.3 \pm 17.2, \text{ } t=-1.69, \text{ } df=78, \text{ } p=0.10), \text{ } (r=-0.16, \\ p>0.05), \text{ } (r=-0.17, \text{ } p>0.05), \text{ } (r=-0.12, \text{ } p>0.05), \\ (r=-0.02, \text{ } p>0.05) \text{ } .$

7\ (24.4 \pm 16.6 vs. 26.1 \pm 14.3, t=-0.51, df=95, p=0.61), (r=0.05, p>0.05), (r=-0.12, p>0.05) , (r=-0.22,

p < 0.05)

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(Table 5).

Table 5. The relationship between sociodemographic variables and coping strategies

		Patients/Normal controls					
	Age	Age Sex		Education Income			
	r	t (df)	r	r	r		
Confrontive coping	15/14	.78(78)/47(98)	.01/ .14	.14/08	.04		
Distancing	09/ .08	1.71(78)/ - 2.14(98)*	25*/ .09	01/10	12		
Self controlling	.04/ .03	66(78)/ - 2.71(98)*	05/ .11	.16/09	.19		
Seeking social support	.13/03	17 (78)/ - 1.50 (98)	.08/ .07	.21*/12	.19		
Accepting responsibility	.03/ .05	2.12(78)*/92(98)	.05/ .09	.04/20*	.15		
Escape avoidance	47**/15	1.72(78) .07(98)	30**/11	24*/06	16		
Planful problem solving	.18/ .00	36(78)/ - 1.58(98)	.13/ .20*	.11/13	.09		
Positive reappraisal	10/03	1.18(78)/ - 1.85(95)	.12/ .16	.02/08	03		

^{*:} p < 0.05, **: p < 0.01,

r: Pearson correlation

t: Student's t-test

6.

$$(r=0.33, \ p<.01) \qquad (r=0.25, \ p<.05)$$

$$. \qquad (18.5\pm6.5 \ vs. \ 17.2$$

$$\pm7.7, \ t=0.79, \ df=78, \ p=0.43), \qquad (r=0.05, \ p>0.05), \qquad (r=-0.04, \ p>0.05)$$

$$. \qquad (r=-0.16, \ p>0.05), \qquad (15.8\pm3.2 \ vs. \ 16.5\pm3.6,$$

$$t=-0.93, \ df=98, \ p=0.35), \qquad (r=-0.05, \ p>0.05), \qquad (r=-0.16, \ p>0.05)$$

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Rosenstiel Keefe²¹

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Abstract

The relationship between perceived stress and coping strategies in patients with chronic low back pain

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(Directed by Professor Kyung Bong Koh)

The object of this study was to investigate the relationship between coping strategies and perceived stress or pain discomfort in patients with chronic low back pain. 80 patients with chronic low back pain and 100 normal controls participated in this study.

Global assessment of recent stress(GARS) scale and Stress Response Inventory(SRI) were used to measure perception for stressors and stress responses. Coping scale and pain discomfort scale were used to measure coping strategies and pain perception.

Scores of perceived stress related to work or job, interpersonal relationship, changes in relationship, sickness or illness and the total scores on the GARS scale were significantly higher in those with chronic low back pain than normal controls. Scores of the SRI fatigue subscale scored significantly higher in those with chronic low back pain than normal controls. No significant difference was found on total

scores of the pain discomfort scale between those with chronic low back pain and normal controls. The patients with chronic low back pain scored significantly higher on planful problem solving and positive reappraisal than normal controls.

In the patients, pain perception had significant positive correlations with total scores of the SRI and scores of stress perception related to illness or injury. Coping strategies used by the patients showed significant correlations with age or the level of education. Significant difference was also found in accepting responsibilities between male subjects and females. However, no significant correlations were found between coping strategies and perceived stressors, stress responses or pain perception.

The results suggest that patients with chronic low back pain were more likely to use more active coping strategies than normal controls, though the former had more perception for stressors than the latter. It was also found that coping strategies used by the patients were more influenced by sociodemographic factors than perceived stressors, stress responses or pain perception.

Key words: chronic low back pain, perceived stressor, stress response, coping strategies, pain perception