ABSTRACT

Vision impairment is found to be associated with many psychological problems and its after effects may cause behavioural difficulties which affects all the phases of life. The present study examined the effect of different psychological variables on visually impaired adults (young adults and middle aged adults). It studied the level of depression, loneliness, visual functioning, quality of life and social support among visually impaired young adults and middle aged visually impaired adults. Typical cases from both the age groups and services provided by the institution were also studied by the researcher. Standardized tools WHO-QOL (World Health Organization-Quality of Life), VFQ-25 (Visual Functioning Questionnaire-25), De Jong Gierveld scale for loneliness, Beck depression Inventory and MSPSS (Multi Dimensional Scale for Perceived Social Support) were used for data collection. SPSS Version 20.0 for windows was used to analyze and interpret the data. Frequency, Percentage, Mean, Standard Deviation, ‘t’ test and chi square were used for data analysis. The results revealed that there is a significant difference between visually impaired young adults and middle aged visually impaired adults on different psychological variables (depression, loneliness and social support). It was found that the visually impaired young adults have better quality of life than the middle aged visually impaired whereas middle aged were found to be lonelier than the young adults.

Keywords: Vision Impairment, depression, loneliness, quality of life, young adults.