Mental health needs of the children of parents with mental illness

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INTRODUCTION

The global prevalence of mental disorders has been reported to be 20 cases per every 100 people.\textsuperscript{[1]} It is estimated that in Australia, one of every five people experiences serious mental problems.\textsuperscript{[2]} Moreover, about half of American people experience some forms of mental disorders during their lives\textsuperscript{[3]} so much so that 40 million people are affected by mental illnesses each year.\textsuperscript{[4]} In Europe, mental disorders have been also estimated to affect about 27\% of the total population.\textsuperscript{[5]} In general, it is estimated that 25\% of the global population suffer from mental problems.\textsuperscript{[6]} The prevalence of these disorders in Iran is also about 20\% from which one percent of these patients need inpatient hospital care.\textsuperscript{[7]}

Statistics show that in the United States, one-third of male and two-third of female patients who suffer from mental disorders have children. Moreover, half of the people with mental health condition in England have children.\textsuperscript{[8]} Studies conducted in Iran have also revealed that 45.9\% of female and 43.9\% of male patients who are suffering from mental disorders have children.\textsuperscript{[9]} In general, 25\%