

RESEARCH NOTE

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The impact of an educational discharge program based on Orem's self-care model on lifestyle, hope, and treatment adherence in coronary angioplasty patients: a randomized controlled clinical trial

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Abstract

Objective Patient education at the time of discharge using models which aim to improve self-care behaviors can significantly contribute to patients' adoption of a healthy lifestyle and treatment adherence. This is a randomized controlled clinical trial with no blinding in which we tested two groups of intervention control. 90 patients having undergone coronary angioplasty were allocated to an intervention ($N=45$) and a control group randomly ($N=45$). Data were collected from January to October 2022. The data collection instruments comprised angioplasty patients' treatment adherence questionnaire, Walker's health-promoting lifestyle profile questionnaire, and Snyder's Hope Scale. Data analysis was performed using SPSS version 23. To analyze the data, we used descriptive statistics. Accordingly, inferential statistics applied included chi-square, independent-samples t-test, and repeated measures (ANOVA). Significance level was considered as $p < 0.05$.

Results The mean scores of lifestyle, hope, and treatment adherence in the intervention group were significantly higher than those of the control group as measured immediately and three months after the intervention ($p < 0.05$). The study results revealed that using discharge program based on Orem's self-care model positively impacted the lifestyle, hope, and treatment adherence of patients having experienced coronary angioplasty.

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Keywords Self care, Education, Patient, Lifestyle, Treatment adherence, Discharge program

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Introduction

As one of the major issues in healthcare systems in many societies, cardiovascular diseases are a main cause of death and disability which imposes great costs on the healthcare systems [1]. In Iran, cardiovascular diseases, especially cardiac arrest, account for more than 40% of deaths [2]. Artery coronary angioplasty is a modern treatment for many patients with blockage of coronary arteries [3]; more than 85% of heart disease patients can be cured by coronary angioplasty [4]. Compared to surgery, this treatment is considered a low-risk, less invasive, and economical method that reduces the length of treatment and hospital stays [5]. At the time of discharge, following coronary angioplasty, most patients are concerned about their lifestyle, limitations in their daily activities, regimen, and medication and their side effects, emphasizing the need to raise the patients' awareness [6–7]. Effective discharge planning is associated with continuation of treatment, greater patient satisfaction, improved well-being of patients, and shorter hospital stays [8]. Although the discharge plan and its record in Europe and the US has benefits, there is still a controversy in this regard [9]. In Iran few studies have investigated the discharge plan, and the impacts of its usage have not been clarified yet [10]. Studies report that at least 50% of patients with a cardiac disorder, especially those who are treated by coronary angioplasty, do not exercise satisfactory medication adherence or discontinue their medication. Discontinuation of antiplatelet therapy may result in the recurrence of cardiac arrest, blockage in a stent due to a clot, re-hospitalization, prolongation of the treatment process, and higher medical expenses for the healthcare system [11–12].

Self-care, a strategy to adapt to the realities and distresses of life, can contribute to the well-being of patients and their families through conscious, learned, and purposeful activities [13]. Orem's self-care model aims to improve care using the individuals' conditions and needs while they experience a deviation from normal health [14]. A study conducted by Nasiri et al. (2022) revealed that the Orem's self-care model helped the nurses in different fields to assess the patients' self-care ability dynamically and carefully and take appropriate nursing measures based on their individual needs, challenges, and interests. Given the lack of consistent evidence which confirms the empirical efficacy of this model, it is recommended that high-quality reviews should be done [15]. In a previous study, telephone consultation was performed using Orem self-care model in patients with coronary angioplasty [16]. In another study, the interdisciplinary discharge program was evaluated in these patients without using the Orem self-care model [17]. Also, other studies have evaluated the application of Orem's self-care model on some variables such as treatment adherence, resilience

[16], quality of life and re-hospitalization in patients with coronary angioplasty separately [18].

The increasing prevalence of cardiovascular diseases has led to a rise in medical interventions, especially coronary angioplasty. Most of the studies in this field have been conducted descriptively, and the few available experimental studies have not used a discharge plan according to Orem's self-care model. Thus, due to the importance of the subject and since few studies have been carried out in this area, it is recommended that the present study should be carried out in different countries to develop knowledge translation in patient education. Accordingly, the present study was designed to find out the impact of an educational discharge program using Orem's self-care model on the lifestyle, hope, and treatment adherence of cardiac disease patients for whom coronary angioplasty had been done in the south of Iran in 2022.

Main text

Study design

This is a randomized controlled clinical trial with no blinding in which an intervention and a control group were investigated. The study was conducted between June and October 2022. To measure the effectiveness of a discharge plan using Orem's self-care model in promoting the lifestyle, hope, and treatment adherence of patients having experienced coronary angioplasty, the researchers performed three tests on the participants: before, immediately after, and three months after the intervention.

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

The inclusion criteria consisted of willingness to participate in the study; being literate; lack of an acute or chronic psychological or cognitive disorder; lack of a chronic disease, e.g. a liver, kidney, or lung disease, cancer, etc.; and lack of a speech, hearing, or sight impairment. The exclusion criteria included deterioration of the patient's condition, lack of attendance in more than two sessions of the educational intervention, unwillingness to continue participation in the study, withdrawal from the study for any reason, and death of the patient.

Sample size and study population

To investigate the quality of randomized controlled trials performed, in the present study we used the CONSORT checklist [19]. The study population consisted of patients hospitalized in the CCU (Coronary care units) or post-CCU of two hospitals in the south of Iran after coronary angioplasty. According to a study by Rahpeima et al. [17] and using the formula for comparison of the means of two dependent groups, $\beta = 0.1$, $\alpha = 0.05$, $\sigma = 3.7$, and $\mu = 21.51$, the minimum sample size was estimated

26 patients. However, due to attrition and increase in the study power, we decided to study 45 patients in each group. Figure 1 displays the participants' consort flow diagram throughout the study (Fig. 1).

Data collection and the questionnaires

The data collection tool consisted of three questionnaires

1. **Treatment adherence questionnaire:** As defined by the World Health Organization (WHO), adherence is defined as the extent to which the patient follows medical instructions [20]. The treatment adherence questionnaire for coronary angioplasty patients is a researcher-made instrument developed by Rahpeima et al. [17]. It contains 10 items scored using a 5-point Likert scale, ranging from always = 5 to never = 0. Thus, the maximum score is 50. The respondents' scores are divided into poor, average, and satisfactory. The scores 1–25 indicate- poor adherence, 26–40 indicate- average adherence, and 41–50 indicates- satisfactory adherence. The reliability of the questionnaire was shown to be 0.89. In the present study, it was 0.90, which shows that the internal consistency of this questionnaire is at a good level. (Supplementary file: Questionnaire)
2. **Snyder's Hope Scale:** Snyder's Hope Scale contains 12 items with two subscales: agency and pathways. Respondents specify the degree of agreement or disagreement with each item on an 8-point Likert scale, ranging from completely agree to completely disagree. The scores range from 8 to 64; the score 8 indicates the lowest level and 64 the highest level of hope [21]. Researchers in Iran have approved the validity and reliability of this scale. A study by Matinfar (2020) found that the internal consistency of the total scale was between 0.74 and 0.84, and its reliability was 0.80 [22]. The Cronbach's α value in the present study was 0.89.
3. **The Health Promoting Lifestyle Profile-II (HPLP-II):** The Health Promoting Lifestyle Profile-II (HPLP-II) developed by Walker et al. [23]. It measures health promoting lifestyles as health promoting behaviors (HPB) by focusing on self-initiated actions and perceptions that serve to maintain or enhance the level of wellness, self-actualization, and fulfillment of the individual [23]. The scale consists of 52 items which are scored using a 4-point Likert scale: never = 1, sometimes = 2, often = 3, and always = 4. The scores of the health-promoting lifestyle profile range between 52 and 208, and the score for each dimension is calculated separately. This instrument was translated and validated in Iran by Zeidi et al. (2012). Cronbach's α was used to estimate the reliability of the

instrument, which was shown to be 0.82 for the whole instrument [24]. A study by Rakhshan et al. (2015) found Cronbach's α of the scale to be 0.89 [25]. The Cronbach's α value in the present study was 0.88.

Intervention and follow-up

The study was conducted between June and October 2022. The educational program based on Orem's self-care model was designed to be implemented in six sessions. The first four sessions were face-to-face meetings, which lasted one hour and provided education through group discussions, lectures, and educational pamphlets. Because of the spread of the seventh wave of COVID-19 in Iran, the other two sessions were held online using telenursing. In the present study, the experiences and expertise of different groups, including cardiologist, psychologist, as well as experienced nursing professors (fifth author (SK) and corresponding authors (MB), who were an associate professors of nursing), were used in the development and implementation of the educational program. Face-to-face training sessions were conducted in the conference hall of the Vali-asr hospital in Fars Province, south of Iran. The education content was presented via videos, photos, and PowerPoint. In each session, in addition to educating the patients, the researchers checked the patients' drugs, assessed their treatment adherence, and encouraged them to be more cooperative. Also, the barriers to the patients' treatment adherence were identified, and measures were taken to eliminate them. In the first session, the sessions' structure and the educational program's objectives were explained, and the concept of hope, based on Snyder's theory, was defined [21]. In the second session, the ways to have more hope and the impact of having hope on health were discussed. The patients were advised to have a healthy diet, consume less salt and fat, and replace fast food with vegetables and fruits for a better lifestyle. In session three, each patient was asked to tell their life story using the three dimensions of Snyder's theory, i.e., goal, agency, and pathways, in their own words to the group. Also, the researchers informed the patients about their drugs, how to use them, and their possible side effects to help them improve their lifestyle. In the fourth session, the patients were asked to list the ongoing events and important aspects of their lives and determiner significance. Moreover, the patients were encouraged to improve their lifestyle by playing sports and doing exercise that suited them. In session five, the qualities of proper goals were discussed and then the patients were encouraged to set themselves goals in one of the domains of their lives. The patients were also introduced to cardiac disease risk factors, including being overweight, smoking, inactivity, stress, anxiety, tension, and any other factors that could

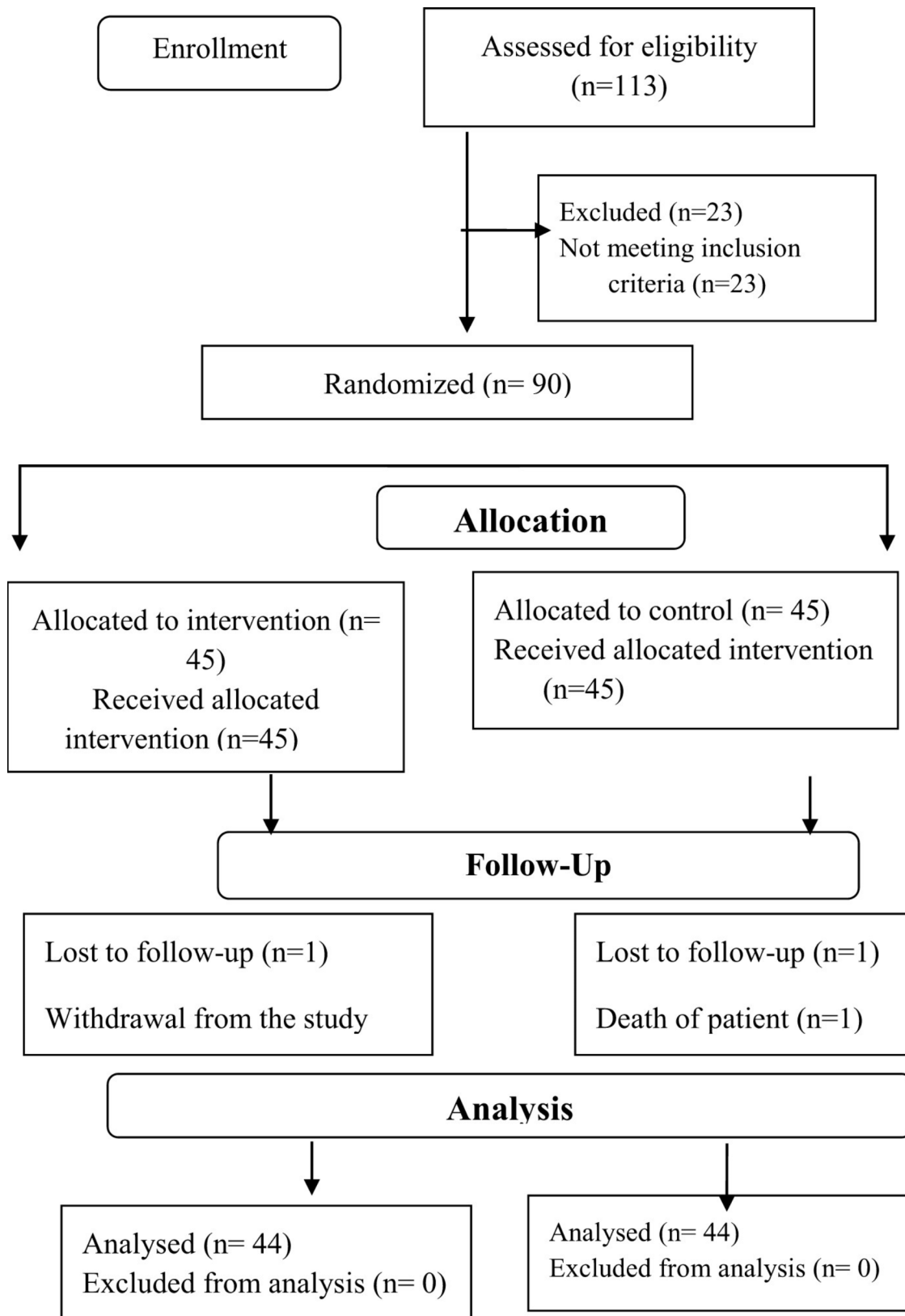


Fig. 1 Displays the participants' consort flow diagram throughout the Study

threaten their health. In session six, the last session, the patients were asked to think of strategies to achieve their goals. To help improve the patients' lifestyles, the researchers explained that they should regularly visit their doctors for a check-up and para-clinical services every one to three months. The patients in the control group did not receive any intervention and were only provided with the educational booklet. As well as the patients in the control group received a routine program by health care providers in health centers. Additionally, participants within the intervention group were afforded the opportunity to receive telephone consultations with the researcher, lasting 10–20 min; in total, 60 to 90 min were considered for each person. The patient completed the questionnaires before, immediately after, and three months after the intervention. The first author (ZM) distributed and collected the questionnaires.

Data analysis

The collected data were analyzed using SPSS version 23. The Kolmogorov-Smirnov test determined how much the quantitative variables followed a normal distribution. To analyze the data, we used descriptive statistics. Accordingly, inferential statistics applied included chi-square, independent-samples t-test, and repeated measures (ANOVA). Significance level was considered as $p < 0.05$.

Results

The participants comprised 90 patients (69.3% male and 30.7% female) treated by coronary angioplasty and were divided into control ($N=45$) and intervention ($N=45$)

groups. The independent t-test and chi-square test revealed no statistically significant differences between both groups ($p > 0.05$) (Table 1).

As to lifestyle and its dimensions, before the intervention, the results revealed an insignificant difference between the intervention and control groups' pre-test mean scores. Also, the two groups' mean scores on lifestyle post-test did not significantly differ as measured immediately after the intervention. However, at the end of the study (three months after the intervention), we found a significant difference between the mean scores of the six lifestyle dimensions in both groups. Also, it was revealed that the differences in lifestyle mean scores in the intervention group exceeded those of the control group ($p < 0.001$) (Table 2). According to the results of the repeated measures analysis of variance, unlike the control group, the pattern of change in the lifestyle of the intervention group patients, was significant, indicating improvement ($p < 0.001$) (Table 2).

A comparison of the hope mean scores in both groups before the intervention ($p = 0.402$) and immediately after it ($p = 0.920$) showed that they did not vary significantly. However, three months after the intervention was done, we found a significant difference between the two groups in the hope mean scores ($p < 0.001$) (Table 3). We found no significant difference between the treatment adherence mean scores of both groups as measured before the intervention. However, we found a significant difference between the two groups' mean scores immediately after and three months after the intervention. Furthermore, the findings of this study revealed that the differences

Table 1 Demographic information of the subjects (intervention and control groups)

Variable	Grouping	Intervention group	Control group	P-value
Age (mean \pm SD)	-	58.43 \pm 9.88	61.40 \pm 12.31	0.21*
Duration of illness(month)	-	5.65 \pm 7.43	3.72 \pm 4.93	0.24*
Marital status(number(percent))	Single	5(11.4%)	4(9.1%)	0.94**
	Married	36(81.8%)	37(84.1%)	
	Divorced or widowed	3(6.8%)	3(6.8%)	
Educational level (number(percent))	Primary school	4 (9.1%)	7 (15.9%)	0.73**
	High school	23 (52.3%)	23 (52.3%)	
	Diploma	11 (25.0%)	10 (22.7%)	
	Upper than diploma	6 (13.6%)	4 (9.1%)	
Sex(number(percent))	Female	12 (27.3%)	15 (34.1%)	0.64**
	Male	32 (72.7%)	29 (65.9%)	
Diabetes	yes	18(40.9%)	16(36.4%)	0.82**
	no	26(59.1%)	28(63.6%)	
Dyslipidemia	yes	15 (34.1%)	11 (25.0%)	0.48**
	no	29(65.9%)	33(75.0%)	
Hypertension	yes	18 (40.9%)	24 (54.5%)	0.28**
	no	26(59.1%)	20(45.5%)	
Family history	yes	29(65.9%)	20 (45.5%)	0.11 **
	no	15(34.1%)	24(54.5%)	

* Independent sample t test. **Chi square test

Table 2 Comparing the average scores of lifestyle dimensions before, immediately and three months after the intervention in the intervention and control groups

Variables	Time of evaluation	Intervention	Control	P-value*
Nutrition	Before	25.29 ± 4.34	24.38 ± 4.38	0.37
	Immediately	30.95 ± 4.32	29.56 ± 5.41	0.22
	3mounth later	34.02 ± 3.25	24.50 ± 4.26	< 0.001
	P-value	< 0.001	< 0.001	
Spiritual growth	Before	12.93 ± 2.12	12.70 ± 2.48	0.32
	Immediately	16.54 ± 3.12	16.11 ± 3.24	0.52
	3mounth later	18.45 ± 2.40	13.86 ± 2.60	< 0.001
	P-value	< 0.001	< 0.001	
Stress management	Before	12.50 ± 2.04	12.61 ± 2.37	0.62
	Immediately	16.40 ± 3.01	15.65 ± 3.27	0.30
	3mounth later	17.97 ± 2.28	14.09 ± 3.23	< 0.001
	P-value	< 0.001	< 0.001	
Physical activity	Before	26.59 ± 4.92	24.90 ± 6.20	0.058
	Immediately	34.72 ± 4.98	32.15 ± 7.97	0.27
	3mounth later	40.00 ± 3.89	28.13 ± 5.7	< 0.001
	P-value**	< 0.001	< 0.001	
Interpersonal communication	Before	18.09 ± 3.82	16.06 ± 4.08	0.10
	Immediately	21.50 ± 3.61	20.56 ± 4.71	0.39
	3mounth later	24.50 ± 3.06	17.95 ± 3.95	< 0.001
	P-value**	< 0.001	< 0.001	
Health responsibility	Before	17.56 ± 3.44	16.31 ± 3.38	0.06
	Immediately	22.00 ± 3.03	20.11 ± 5.02	0.13
	3mounth later	24.43 ± 2.81	18.68 ± 4.04	< 0.001
	P-value**	< 0.001	< 0.001	
Total lifestyle score	Before	112.96 ± 4.97	108.93 ± 6.29	0.034
	Immediately	141.60 ± 5.44	134.14 ± 5.77	< 0.001
	3mounth later	159.38 ± 4.32	117.21 ± 4.91	< 0.001
	P-value**	< 0.001	< 0.001	

* Independent sample t-test. **Repeated measures ANOVA

Table 3 Comparing the mean scores of hope dimensions before, immediately and three months after the intervention in the intervention and control groups

group	Before intervention	Immediately after the intervention	3months after the intervention	p-value*
intervention	34.54 ± 4.74	39.02 ± 3.54	45.59 ± 5.06	< 0.001
control	33.72 ± 3.37	38.54 ± 5.59	36.09 ± 4.47	< 0.001
total	34.13 ± 4.11	38.78 ± 4.65	40.84 ± 6.73	< 0.001
p-value**	0.402	0.920	< 0.001	

* Independent sample t-test. **Repeated measures ANOVA

in treatment adherence mean scores in the intervention group exceeded those of the control group (Tables 4 and 5).

Discussion

According to the findings of this study, an increase in the lifestyle mean score of the intervention group patients was observed; as the t-test results showed, a statistically significant difference was found between both groups' post-test lifestyle mean scores. These findings are in the same line with those of other studies on the impact of education on the patients' lifestyle after coronary angioplasty. A study carried out by Khodaveisi et al. (2022)

aimed to investigate the impact of education using Pender's model on health-promoting behaviors in patients who had undergone coronary angioplasty; it was proved that education effectively improved the patients' lifestyles [26].

Similarly, a study by Mohammadi, et al., which explored the effects of an educational intervention based on the multimedia education in combination with teach-back method on the lifestyle of patients with a cardiac disorder, demonstrated that the education significantly contributed to improving the patients' lifestyles and promotion of the quality of life. Even though the study's population and educational model above differed from

Table 4 Comparison of the percentage of adherence to treatment dimensions before, immediately and three months after the intervention in the intervention and control groups

group	Dimensions	Before intervention	Immediately after the intervention	3months after the intervention	p-value*
intervention	high	5(11.4%)	21(47.7%)	26(59.1%)	< 0.001
	moderate	(72.7%)32	(47.7%)21	(40.9%)8	
	low	7(15.9%)	2(4.5%)	0(0.0%)	
control	high	3(6.8%)	10(22.7%)	5(11.4%)	0.039
	moderate	(90.9%)40	(77.3%)34	(79.5%)35	
	low	(2.3%)1	(0.0%)0	(9.1%)4	
p-value*	P- Value	0.053	0.011	< 0.001	

*Chi square tests

Table 5 Comparing the mean scores of treatment adherence before, immediately and three months after the intervention in the intervention and control groups

group	Before intervention	Immediately after the intervention	3months after the intervention	p-value*
intervention	31.97 ± 6.39	39.75 ± 5.27	40.22 ± 5.61	< 0.001
control	31.72 ± 4.92	36.54 ± 4.89	32.90 ± 5.94	< 0.001
total	31.85 ± 5.67	38.14 ± 5.30	36.56 ± 6.82	< 0.001
p-value**	0.837	0.004	< 0.001	

* Independent sample t-test. **Repeated measures ANOVA

those of the present study, the results are consistent and demonstrate that education improves patients' lifestyles [27]. Similarly, Rohani et al. (2019) found that the subjects' lifestyle scores increased significantly in the post-test stage [28]. Another study by Babaei et al. (2020) assessed the impact of an educational intervention using the Health Belief Model on the adoption of health-promoting behaviors by individuals at risk of cardiovascular diseases. It was found that the intervention significantly increased the participants' lifestyle mean scores [29].

As the results of the current study showed, the educational discharge program using Orem's self-care model effectively increased hope in the patients who had experienced coronary angioplasty. The intervention boosted hope in the intervention group and the control group patients; however, the latter experienced a much slighter change. An explanation for this outcome is that by completing Snyder's hope scale three times, the patients in the control group became mentally prepared to have more hope. In a systematic review, Miles et al. concluded that filling out the questionnaires and scales could cause changes in the respondents' behaviors [30]. Also, education and counseling provided by caregivers in hospitals and clinics increased hope and satisfaction in patients, as verified by the findings of a study by Woo et al. [31]. Another reason for the increase in the control group's hope mean score is that the patients may have benefited from the experiences of other cardiac disease patients among their friends or relatives. The results of the present study are also consistent with those of a study conducted by Kamalpur (2019). In the latter study, data analysis showed a significant difference between the patients' pre-test and post-test scores of hope, confirming

the assumption that education increases hope in patients with a cardiac disease [32]. Similarly, in their study, Ali-pour Shahr et al. (2021) concluded that mindfulness training contributed to the patients' increase in hope [33]. As with other studies, the present study indicated that effective patient education significantly increased hope in patients who often experienced loss of hope after being diagnosed with a cardiovascular disease [34]. In a quasi-experimental study, Wangungu et al. found that the intervention increased the medication adherence of the intervention group as compared to the control group [35].

Similarly, according to a study conducted by Kobrae et al. (2022), educational packages, as an easy-to-use and safe method of education, can help increase health literacy and treatment adherence in patients with a cardiac disorder and prevent their illness from advancing [36]. Ghorbanimoghadam et al. (2022) found that the intervention had a positive impact on the patients' treatment adherence and its subcategories [37]. Another study, which explored the effects of an educational program using text messages about treatment adherence, i.e. a healthy regimen, exercise, and secondary prevention following an acute coronary syndrome over 12 months, reported similar results despite the differences between the mentioned study and the present study in the educational interventions tested and the length of follow-up [38]. Another study carried out by Ranjbaran et al. (2022) in Iran indicated that the intervention designed using the health action process approach caused improvements in diet and medication adherence in patients with type 2 diabetes [39].

In the present study, the intervention group exhibited higher mean scores for both treatment adherence, lifestyle and hope at the three-month post-intervention assessment compared to the immediate post-intervention period. This finding contrasts with the results of Rahpeima et al., whose study reported a decline in the intervention group's mean treatment adherence scores at one month post-intervention relative to the immediate post-intervention measurements [17]. A potential explanation for these divergent outcomes lies in the fact that participants in the current study, in addition to attending in-person educational sessions and online meetings, received ongoing telephone consultations throughout the three-month post-intervention period. Moreover, this sustained improvement may be attributable to participants' exposure to supplementary cardiac self-care education via peer group and audiovisual media channels.

Limitations

Due to the 7th wave of COVID-19, the researcher had to use online education and telenursing instead of face-to-face training in 2 out of 6 training sessions, which may have caused intervention choice bias, which the researcher did not control. Another study limitation was the short interval between the intervention and assessment of the patients' outcomes. Further studies are suggested to consider longer time periods for assessing patients' outcomes. Also, this study was conducted in the south of Iran; it is also suggested that it should be carried out in other regions of Iran and other countries as well.

Implications for nursing practice and education

This study provided valuable findings regarding the application of Orem's self-care model, in patients undergoing coronary angioplasty and can be the basis of other research in this field. Nursing professors should institutionalize the use of nursing models in the education and nursing curriculum; also, nursing managers can use educational interventions in other chronic diseases based on Orem's self-care model to improved adherence to treatment, lifestyle, and hope.

Conclusion

The results of our study showed that the Orem's self-care model effectively improved the discharge program of patients who had experienced coronary angioplasty and improved the patients' self-care skills, including adherence to treatment, lifestyle, and hope of these patients. Therefore, it is suggested that healthcare administrators establish this new approach to patient education in the discharge plans of other patients.

Supplementary Information

The online version contains supplementary material available at <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13104-025-07164-9>.

Supplementary Material 1

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Author contributions

MB was involved in the conception and organization of the study. ZM, AD, SK, and AA, were involved in the execution and data collection of the study; MB and ZM participated in statistical analysis design and/or execution. All authors contributed to the preparation, critical review and all of them approved the final manuscript.

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Data availability

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

Declarations

Ethics approval and consent to participate

This study was done based on the principles outlined in the revised Declaration of Helsinki. This internationally recognized statement provides ethical guidance for physicians and researchers conducting human subject research. Written informed consent was obtained from all the participants. Furthermore, the participants were explicitly informed about the measures taken to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of their data. For added ethical oversight, approval for the study was obtained from the Research Ethics Committees of Fasa University of Medical Sciences, Fars, Iran, with the code of IR.FUMS.REC.1401.035. All the research methods were performed following the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.

Consent for publication

Not applicable.

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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