

Abstract

The current study explored the relationships between illness perceptions, affiliate stigma and empowerment. Both cognitive and emotional representations of mental illness perceptions were involved to predict affiliate stigma which might be considered having influence on empowerment. 73 caregivers of PIR completed a questionnaire assessing their illness perceptions, affiliate stigma and empowerment, Path model was supported with five dimensions of illness perceptions predicting affiliate stigma, while higher level stigma predicts lower level of empowerment.