

**Table1)** Mean, SD, range of acquired score and Pearson's correlation coefficient among the constructs of health belief model

Variables	1	2	3	4	5	Mean	Range of acquired scores
<b>1- Knowledge</b>	1					14.6±3.4	0-20
<b>2- Perceived susceptibility</b>	*0.103	1				7.8±2.3	3-15
<b>3- Perceived severity</b>	**0.262	0.094	1			12.9±2.9	4-20
<b>4- Perceived benefit</b>	**0.366	0.079	**0.353	1		31.1±5.9	8-40
<b>5- Perceived barriers</b>	** -0.218	**0.163	-0.025	** -0.192	1	16.6±4.4	7-35
<b>6- cues to action</b>	**0.139	0.073	0.052	-0.018	**0.187	18.0±3.5	8-24

\*significant at  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significant at  $p < 0.01$

**Table 2)** Mean and SD of items relating to perceived benefits and barriers regarding to gender

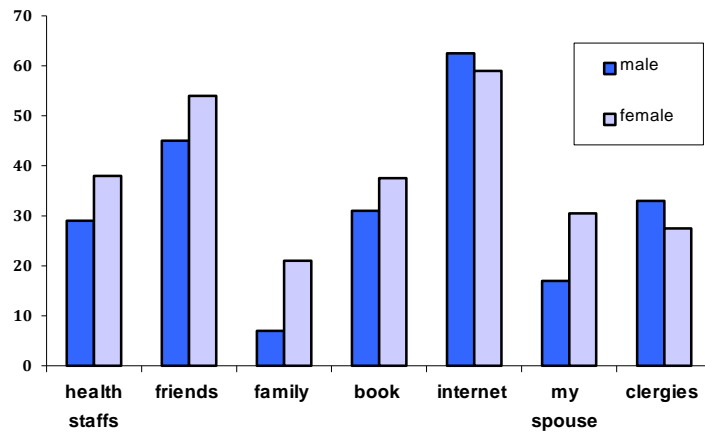
	<b>Items</b>	<b>Male (n=200)</b>	<b>Female (n=200)</b>
<b>Perceived benefits</b>	A favorable sexual relationship can lead to improving the marital relations	40.2(±0.96)	3.86(±1.1)
	The sexual relationship between the couples can lead to more intimacy between them.	4.09(±0.89)	4.01(±0.96)
	A favorable sexual relationship can make family intimate	4.06(±0.87)	4.05(±0.93)
	A healthy sexual relationship between the couples can lead to prevention from STD	3.94(±0.95)	3.69(±1.1)
	A healthy and favorable sexual relationship makes the marital life more attractive	4.12(±0.78)	3.98(±0.94)
	A healthy and favorable sexual relationship causes tranquility between the couples	4.07(±0.91)	3.96(±1.1)
<b>Perceived barriers</b>	STD occurs among the individuals with multiple sexual partners	3.36(±1.26)	3.32(±1.3)
	asking questions about the sexual issues from other leads to revealing my family secrets	3.78(±1.1)	3.85(±1.1)
	asking questions about the sexual issues is shameful	2.31(±0.99)	2.55(±1.1)
	I feel shy of my husband talking about sexual matters	2.51(±1.12)	2.47(±1.15)
	The couples who have a favorable sexual relationship do not need counseling classes	2.16(±1.1)	2.19(±0.95)
	Making sexual relationship while engaged will not lead to good consequences.	1.88(±0.95)	2.65(±1.18)
	Talking about sexual relationship with partner during the periods before marriage is shameful.	2.22(±1.1) 2.47(±1.1) 2.47(±1.1)	2.29(±1.03) 2.55(±1.1) 2.55(±1.1)

**Table 3)** The mean and SD of items relating to perceived thread regarding to gender

	<b>Items</b>	<b>Male (n=200)</b>	<b>Female (n=200)</b>
<b>Perceived susceptibility</b>	I may not be able to make a favorable sexual relationship with my partner in the future.	2.38(±1.1)	2.45(±1.1)
	I am worried about making a sexual relationship with my partner	2.06(±1.1)	2.69(±1.1)
	The sexual issues are not so important to effect on my life	2.88(±1.1)	3.18(±1.1)
<b>Perceived severity</b>	Lack of knowledge and disregarding to health issues in making sexual relationship may cause STD (AIDS, Syphilis, Gonorrhea)	2.72(±1.1)	2.91(±0.9)
	Lack of knowledge about the sexual relationships can lead to unwanted pregnancy	3.28(±1.1)	3.36(±0.9)
	Inability in making a sexual relationship can lead to breaking off the emotional relationship between the couples	3.39(±1.1)	3.51(±1.1)
	In case of inability in making a favorable sexual relationship, our married life will be exposed to risk	3.26(±1.1)	3.37(±1.1)

**Table 4)** The relationship between demographic variables of participants in the study and constructs of health belief model (n=400)

Variables	Perceived susceptibility		Perceived severity		Perceived benefits		Perceived barriers		cues to action	
	Mean( $\pm$ SD)	P <sub>value</sub>	Mean( $\pm$ SD)	P <sub>value</sub>	Mean( $\pm$ SD)	P <sub>value</sub>	Mean( $\pm$ SD)	P <sub>value</sub>	Mean( $\pm$ SD)	P <sub>value</sub>
<b>Age(year)</b>										
10-20	8.42( $\pm$ 2.2)		12.5( $\pm$ 2.8)		29.1( $\pm$ 6.1)		17.7( $\pm$ 4.7)		18.1( $\pm$ 3.4)	
21-30	7.55( $\pm$ 2.2)	0.003	13.1( $\pm$ 2.8)	0.351	31.7( $\pm$ 5.5)	0.001	16.2( $\pm$ 4.3)	0.16	17.9( $\pm$ 3.5)	0.911
31-40	8.21( $\pm$ 2.1)		12.6( $\pm$ 3.1)		33.3		16.7( $\pm$ 3.3)		18.1( $\pm$ 4.1)	
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	7.32( $\pm$ 2.1)		12.6( $\pm$ 2.9)	0.102	31.4( $\pm$ 5.3)	0.220	16.1( $\pm$ 4.3)	0.006	18.5( $\pm$ 3.1)	0.006
Female	8.32( $\pm$ 2.3)	0.001	13.1( $\pm$ 2.8)		30.7( $\pm$ 6.4)		17.2( $\pm$ 4.5)		17.5( $\pm$ 3.8)	
<b>Education level</b>										
Elementary	8.07( $\pm$ 2.3)		11.1( $\pm$ 2.7)		27.9( $\pm$ 4.5)		18.4( $\pm$ 3.3)		18.2( $\pm$ 3.3)	
Sub diploma	7.51( $\pm$ 1.9)	0.0469	11.9( $\pm$ 2.9)	0.001	29.2( $\pm$ 4.9)	0.001	17.5( $\pm$ 4.1)	0.001	18.6( $\pm$ 2.9)	0.001
Diploma	7.84( $\pm$ 2.3)		12.7( $\pm$ 2.8)		30.2( $\pm$ 6.1)		17.1( $\pm$ 4.3)		18.6( $\pm$ 3.3)	
Academic	7.98( $\pm$ 2.4)		14.2( $\pm$ 2.4)		33.8( $\pm$ 5.5)		15.1( $\pm$ 4.6)		16.7( $\pm$ 4.1)	
<b>Place of residence</b>										
Urban	7.89( $\pm$ 2.2)	0.235	13.1( $\pm$ 2.8)	0.014	31.4( $\pm$ 6.1)	0.013	16.3( $\pm$ 4.5)	0.006	17.8( $\pm$ 3.7)	0.018
Rural	7.55( $\pm$ 2.4)		12.2( $\pm$ 2.9)		29.6( $\pm$ 4.4)		17.8( $\pm$ 4.1)		18.8( $\pm$ 2.9)	
<b>Occupation</b>										
Staff	.51( $\pm$ 1.9)		13.7( $\pm$ 2.8)		34.1( $\pm$ 4.9)		14.9( $\pm$ 4.4)		17.2( $\pm$ 4.5)	
Free- job unemployed	7.37( $\pm$ 2.2)	0.003	12.3( $\pm$ 2.7)	0.001	30.7( $\pm$ 5.2)	0.001	16.5( $\pm$ 4.2)	0.001	18.6( $\pm$ 3.1)	0.001
Student	8.29( $\pm$ 2.6)		12.9( $\pm$ 3.1)		30.5( $\pm$ 6.9)		19.1( $\pm$ 3.2)		19.5( $\pm$ 3.3)	
Homemaker	7.98( $\pm$ 2.3)		14.5( $\pm$ 2.7)		32.1( $\pm$ 7.5)		14.8( $\pm$ 5.1)		16.2( $\pm$ 3.6)	
	8.43( $\pm$ 2.2)		12.5( $\pm$ 2.7)		30.1( $\pm$ 5.5)		17.9( $\pm$ 4.3)		18.1( $\pm$ 3.4)	



**Graph 1)** Distribution of frequency (%) of cues to action relating to sexual health regarding gender