

# Effectiveness of CBT and Sex Therapy on Marital Adjustment and Sexual Function among Patient with Premature Ejaculation

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**Abstract:** The satisfaction of a good sexual interaction between spouses is one of the most crucial elements in a happy marriage. The research's purpose was to ascertain the effectiveness combination of CBT and sex therapy (Master & Johnson, 1970) on marital adjustment (MA) and Sexual Function (SF) among patient with Premature ejaculation (PE). good loving attitude toward each other in relationships, and decreases interpersonal discontent. In this view, Author proposed a combination therapy of sex therapy and CBT for sexual dysfunction, such as PE. The tools used were Brief Sexual Function Inventory (self devised) and Marital adjustment scale (MAS) (Locke & Wallace, 1959). Statistical tools used were Descriptive Statistics, Paired sample t test, Analysis of Variance and Post-Hoc Tukey HSD. The pre-intervention mean score of 4 groups was insignificant on MAS and SES. The results of the paired samples t-test were used to assess pre and posttest scores for all the 3 interventions groups. The post-intervention means score of all 4 groups was significantly different over MAS and SF. The post hoc analysis revealed that the mean score differences were most significant in combined therapy of ST and CBT as compared to ST and CBT individually. This paper utilizes psychological therapy and sex therapy can have larger implication on maintaining sexual intimacy among couples and in turn having a long-lasting effect on marital adjustment.

Keywords: Sexual Function, Marital Adjustment, Sex therapy, CBT.

## 1. IMPACT STATEMENT

### What is the public health significance of this article?

The study suggest an eclectic approach combining two major therapeutic techniques namely Sex therapy and CBT. The proposed module will act as a innovative shift for treating patient with PE and further it can help clinical practitoners around the world to look at the treatment module for sexual dysfunction with a different perspective. For patients facing SD it can help in restructuring there cognitive schema, particularly in maintaining sexual intimacy leading to sexual satisfaction among couples in dyadic relationship.

### **EFFCETIVENESS OF CBT AND SEX THERAPY ON MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND SEXUAL FUNCTION AMONG PATIENT WITH PREMATURE EJACULATION**

A sexual disorder is a problem that prevents a person or a couple from enjoying their sexual activity. Some forty-three percent of girls and 31 percentage of guys record a few parameters of sexual disorder. Additionally, it refers to an issue that emerges at any moment of the sexual response cycle that stops the couple or person from enjoying the sexual activity (Hatzichristou & Hazimouratidis, 2007).

The sexual reaction cycle historically consists of pleasure, orgasm, resolution, and plateau. Arousal & Desire are each a part of the pleasure section of the sexual reaction. Sexual disorders normally are assessed into 4 types: Desire, Arousal, Pain, and Orgasm disorders. Sexual disorder can influence any age, even though it is an extra not unusual place in the ones over forty due to the fact it is far more frequently associated with a decline in fitness related to aging (Kockott, 2007).

### **Prevalence in India**

Sexual disorder is common (43 % of girls and 31 % of male), and many human beings are reluctant to share them with anybody s due to the various level of stigma in society and also feels fewer available doctors and practitioner in this specific field. Pereira et al.,(2013). Sathyanarayana Rao et al., 2015, according to the studies, it was found that 21.15% of the male subjects had one (or more) sexual disorders. Male HSDD (Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder) was observed to be 2.56% prevalent, and premature ejaculation was observed to be 8.76% prevalent.

There were approximately 14% of female subjects with female sexual disorders. 6.65 percent of women were found to have arousal dysfunction, female HSDD was found to be 8.87%, female anorgasmia was found to be 5.67%, female dyspareunia which we called vaginismus was found to be 2.34%, 2.34 percent of women have a female sexual phobia.

## **2. IMPACT OF SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTORS ON SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR**

EW Young et al., (1991) explored how two-parent and single-parent families influenced adolescent sexual behavior. Race, Age, and gender were controlled variables. The study observed adolescents from white and black single-parent families and black and white 2-parent families in terms of the 1<sup>st</sup> sexual experience's age, Sexual activity volume throughout the last 4 weeks, as well as virgin or nonvirgin status. Reduced sex activity and higher age at first sex in boys were linked to the 2-parent household. Race had a greater influence on the sexual behavior of females than the two-parent household did. Despite having a higher likelihood of being virgins, white women from two-parent homes tended to have more sexual activity after their first encounter than black women from two-parent families.

Researchers have looked at how students go from high school to college and how their parents, friends, and sexual norms affect them. The outcomes of this longitudinal study displayed that people who had high levels of both peer and parental PAC were sexually active. Findings point to complicated relationships between sexual values, perceived awareness and care, and sexual practices. Additionally, they indicate that the high school to college transition may be the time when safer-sex initiatives are most successful. (Wetherill et al., 2009; Huebner & Howell, 2003; Kotchick et al., 2001; Goldstein et al., 2005).

Sexual disorder can frequently be traced again to an affected person's upbringing. People who grew up in highly strict spiritual homes or in cultures with punitive views toward sexual activity typically have problems with sexual functioning as adults. As we grow, religion and subculture are crucial in determining who we are. Hanford K. (1989).

### **MARITAL ADJUSTMENT**

The best and balance of marriage has long been described using the concept of marital adjustment. A well-adjusted marriage is predicted to remain for a long term and be gratifying through each spouse. The ideal conjugal (marriage) connection has been shown to be important for acting in a healthy way. A bad conjugal (marriage) relationship should have an impact on physiological capabilities and affect fitness results thru despair and healthy or fitness habits. It's important to align the following couples' interests & values, maintain open channels of verbal communication on both a mental and sexual level, and encourage the expression of each couple's unique verbal exchange throughout the process of couples adapting and alternating to their new roles during a wedding. Marital adjustment, quickly after "tying the knot," the earlier relationship between the couple will input into marital adjustment wherein they may set up their area withinside the relationship or marriage determined their toes withinside the new life. If the adjustment results in a few reasons for their routine, then it could lead impact their sexual closeness and might reason numerous sexual dysfunctions. Though various couples might be capable of adjusting to sexual disorders, commonly, marriages are disturbed or dissolved because of sexual issues (Osborne, 1981). (Osborne, 1981). Despite this intuitive awareness, there may be a startling lack of research that really record the suffering of psychosexually disordered men's partners. The estimated significance of 9.2 percent to 13 percent of psychiatric patients and the 30% of males who visit STD health centres in India that provide services for sexual disorders make this shortage clear. (Kar & Verma, 1978; Kumar,1983; Catalan, 1981).

### **SEXUAL DISORDERS INTERVENTIONS**

**CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy)** is the best and most efficient psychological management for a lot of psychological issues, inclusive of depression, anxiousness-related issues, and sexual disorders. CBT is effectively implemented for sexual problems (especially sexual dysfunctions) over the last 3 long time, and a few management-related manuals have been created. The main purposes of CBT for sexual difficulties are the management of significant outcomes research and its logical, evidence-based methods. From the data, reviewing the research on the

function of cognitive as well as behavioral elements on sexual issues, offering crucial statistics primarily based totally on clinical parameters approximately the cognitive & behavioral strategies concerned in sexual problems (Altunoluk et al., 2012).

CBT for sexual dysfunctions is the utility of cognitive as well as behavioral ideas in the area of sexual issues. Thus, CBT for sexual problems makes use of therapeutic techniques just like the ones for different various psychological related problems. It is very crucial to understand the behavior beforehand about an intensive evaluation of the sexual problems and associated problems. (Sharma et al., 2019). Analysts have gathered rigorous and whole data on the subsequent topics: (I) applicable data so that it will assign a dependable multiaxial prognosis (II) Information approximately the feasible predisposing factors (for example, sexual and existence experiences, sexual & interpersonal relationships, our related members of the family & sexual education) and precipitating aspects (Existence activities that start or grow when problems first start) of sexual disorder (III) Information approximately the present-day problems and their protection factors (for example, the seriousness of the issue, precedents as well as the consequences, and situations that escalate and relieve). Most cognitive behavioral therapy protocols for sexual disorders utilize a basic listing of intervention methods. The essential factors utilized are (i) stimulus control, (ii) sensate focus, (iii) cognitive restructuring, and (iv) sexual competencies education. It will provide the primary goals and strategies concerned in those techniques, with a unique focus on cognitive restructuring.

### **SEX THERAPY**

It is a kind of psychotherapy that may be used by couples or by people on their own. While sexual dysfunction or other issues in a couple's physical relationship are common reasons for couples to seek sex therapy, it may also be utilized as a tool to maintain healthy, transparent relationships for years to come. Since it usually takes the form of talk therapy, individuals or couples may anticipate discussing their reluctance or worries over physical closeness. Any emotional or psychological barriers that could be preventing you from enjoying sex with your partner can be overcome with the aid of sex therapy. Moreover, it may help couples or individuals identify any mental or physical issues avoiding them from getting involved in or experiencing sexual activity. Along with assisting couples with desire differences, this may also assist with sexual dysfunction.

### **BENEFITS OF SEX THERAPY**

Sex therapy may assist with a variety of relationship issues, but it can also have a favorable effect on the patient's general outlook on life. The following are some advantages of sex therapy: It may increase the couple's emotional closeness, which can enhance their feeling of fulfillment and satisfaction. It has been shown that having sex at least once a week enhances overall relationship pleasure. Particularly when it comes to intimacy and fulfillment, it may aid couples in communicating more effectively.

Researchers over the years examined the study combining medical as well as psychological therapies for people or couples who have sexual dysfunction provides an alternate method to treatment that improves effectiveness, treatment, and relationship satisfaction and lowers patient dropout. Both of these strengths may be blended, and by changing the way we provide psychological treatment, patients can ultimately gain more. They researched the literature on combination therapy and proposed a single paradigm for combined therapy. The patients have received a thorough explanation of the updated procedure. Success-enhancing and failure-detrimental factors have been identified. His study titled "Premature Ejaculation: A Sex Therapist's Perspective" discusses the diagnosis as well as the treatment of PE ("Premature Ejaculation") from the viewpoint of the sex therapist and suggests that combination therapy, combining sexual medicines & sex therapy, is typically the best therapeutic option. A combination strategy like this would produce a longer ejaculatory latency, greater treatment satisfaction, as well as better long-term results. Men with PE typically have problems with their sexual and general relationships since they are anxious and lack sexual self-confidence. Given that PE includes both psychological and physiological components, the optimal functional balance should result from a therapy that addresses both. However, a treatment strategy that combines sex therapy and medication would be most effective (Melnik & Abdo, 2005; Althof, 1994; Perelman, 2006).

Taking the above into consideration, the researcher aims to develop a technique incorporating the strategy of CBT & ST in a 5-session module. Thereby proposing a combination of CBT+ST & its impact on the patient's marital adjustments. Therefore, the current work's **objective** is

1. “To compare the pre and post-test scores of CBT, ST, and CBT+ST on the variables of the study MA and SF among the patient of PE.
2. To evaluate the pre and post-test scores in the control group on the variables of the study MA and SF among the patient of PE.
3. To assess the effectiveness of CBT+ST over CBT and ST alone on the variable SF and MA.”

**HYPOTHESIS**

- H1.** “The baselines score of CBT, ST & CBT+ST & control group will differ insignificantly on the measures of MA & SF among the patient with PE.
- H2.** The pre & post-test scores of CBT, ST, & CBT+ST will differ significantly on the variables of MA & SF among the patient with PE.
- H3.** There will be a difference in the pre and post-score of the control group on the variables of study MA & SF among the patients with PE.
- H4.** The combination therapy of CBT+ST” (proposed by the author) will be more effective as compared to CBT and ST alone on the variables of the study SF and MA.

**SAMPLE DESCRIPTION**

40 PE patients (Age 25-40 years) made up the study's sample size. Every group—ST, CBT, combined ST and CBT, & Control Group—consisted of 10 participants. The data was collected from The Bhandari Hospital and Research Centre's (IASH department) OPD. Purposive sampling was utilized in this investigation. Selection of participants was optional, and anonymity was preserved. The therapies were administered simultaneously to these subjects.

- ❖ **Inclusion Criteria:** with a minimum age of 25 and English and Hindi language proficiency. Enduring drug stability for at least one month. A minimum of one month previous to baseline evaluation, either free of psychoactive medication or on a stable medication regimen, and a willingness to forgo any drug modifications during therapy.
- ❖ **Exclusion Criteria:** Neurological disorders and Co-morbid psychiatric disorder (severe D with psychotic symptoms, psychosis, bipolar affective disorder, mental retardation, head injury, current psychoactive substance abuse or dependence, epilepsy, and other neurological disorders), and Patients who have undergone at least one sufficient trial (5 to 8 sessions) of sex therapy and cognitive behavior therapy in the preceding year. Or has gone through a treatment procedure of any kind.

**TOOLS**

1. Semi-structured interview schedule
2. A brief Sexual Function Inventory (BSFI) (self devised) to measure sexual function.
3. Marital Adjustment Test (MAT)- Locke & Wallace (1970) to measure marital adjustment.

**RESEARCH DESIGN**

The study's pre-post-research design would guide its execution. **(Figure 1)**

Group	Pre-Assessment	Intervention	Post-Assessment	Results
<b>A(ST)</b>		ST		
<b>B(CBT)</b>		CBT		
<b>C (Combined ST and CBT)</b>		ST and CBT		
<b>D(Control)</b>		No intervention”		

**Figure 1**

**PROCEDURE**

After receiving approval from the hospital administration, three to four patients with PE was chosen from the OPD of “Bhandari Hospital and Research Centre”, Jaipur, for the trial phase. These patients were evaluated using the study's measurements, including the BSFI and MA, before being included in the control group and all three therapy conditions. It would be given a sufficient trial of ST, CBT, and combined ST and CBT.

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

1. Descriptive study
2. ANOVA test
3. Paired Sample t test
4. Post hoc Tukey HSD test

The data will be analyzed using SPSS 22.

**ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:** All the ethical considerations have been followed in the study.

### 3. RESULTS:

**Table 1.1-Descriptive and ANOVA of 3 treatments (ST, CBT, ST+CBT) and control group (N=40) on Sexual function (SF) (pre-intervention assessment).**

Therapy	Mean	SDs	F value	Sig.
CBT	8.0	1.82		
ST	8.7	1.70	2.177	.108
CBT+ST	9.7	2.11		
Control group	7.8	1.68		
Total	8.5	1.92		

A one-way ANOVA revealed that there was a statistically insignificant difference in the four groups on the variable of sexual dysfunction. (F (2,17), p = .108).

**Table 1.2- Mean, SDs, t-value, and significant level pre-post comparison of SF in 3 treatment conditions.**

Condition		Mean	SDs	N	t-value	Df	Sig.
CBT	Pre	8.000	1.825	10	18.362	9	.000
	Post	21.7000	1.636				
ST	Pre	8.700	1.702	10	33.632	9	.000
	Post	41.50	2.877				
CBT+ST	Pre	9.600	2.590	10	28.992	9	.000
	Post	42.00	1.763				

\*Significant at.001 level

“A paired sample t-test was carried out to compare sexual dysfunction symptoms before and after CBT +ST treatment conditions. There was a significant difference in the pre-CBT scores (M= 8.000, SD=1.825) and post-CBT scores (M= 21.7000, SD= 1.636) conditions; t (9) = 18.362, p=.000. When paired sample t-test was conducted in before and after ST treatment conditions. There was a significant difference in the scores for pre-ST (M= 8.700, SD= 1.702) and post-ST scores (M= 41.50, SD= 2.877), conditions; t (9) = 33.632, p=.000. The paired sample t-test when conducted in before and after CBT+ST treatment conditions. There was a significant difference in the scores for pre-CBT+ST scores (M= 9.600, SD= 2.590) and post-CBT+ST scores (M= 42.00, SD=1.763) conditions; t” (9) = 28.992, p=.000.

**Table 1.3- Descriptive and ANOVA of all 4 groups (N=40) on SF post-intervention assessment.**

Therapy	Mean	SDs	F value	Sig.
CBT	21.700	1.63		
ST	39.60	1.83	821.469	.000**
CBT+ST	42.00	1.76		
Control group	8.0	1.82		
Total	27.8250	14.15		

\*\* significant at 0.01 level

A one-way ANOVA revealed that there was a statistically significant difference in the four groups on the variable of sexual function. (F (2,17), p <= .000).

**Table 1.4- Post hoc analysis (Tukey HSD) of pairwise comparison of post-test intervention for all 4 groups on variables SF.**

Therapy	Therapy	Mean differences	Sig.
CBT+ST	CT	20.30	.000
CBT+ST	ST	2.40	.022
CBT+ST	Control group	34.0	.000
CT	ST	-17.90	.000
CT	Control group	13.70	.000
ST	Control group	31.60	.000

Tukey’s “HSD Test for multiple comparisons found that the mean value of scores was significantly different between technique 1 and technique 2 (p = .000) and (p= .022)

There was a statistically significant variation in scores between technique 1 and technique 3 (p=0.000) or between technique 2 and technique” 3 (p=0.00). This indicates that the combination of therapeutic techniques CBT+ST shows better results in sexual function on Partients with PE.

**Table 2.1-Descriptive and ANOVA of all 4 groups (N=40) on Marital Adjustment (MA) (pre-intervention assessment)**

Therapy	Mean	SDs	F value	Sig.
CBT	28.60	14.91		
ST	32.70	9.09	1.265	.301
CBT+ST	36.20	7.22		
Control group	27.80	11.063		
Total	31.32	11.062		

A one-way ANOVA was performed to compare the effect of three different therapeutic techniques on marital adjustment.

A one-way ANOVA revealed that there was a statistically insignificant variation in the four groups on the variable of marital adjustment. (F (1.265), p = .301).

**Table 2.2- Mean, SDs, t-value, and significant level pre-post comparison of MA in 3 treatment conditions.**

Condition		Mean	SDs	N	t-value	Df	Sig.
CBT	Pre	28.600	14.916	10	7.455	9	.000
	Post	82.800	12.682				
ST	Pre	32.700	9.092	10	29.563	9	.000
	Post	140.60	8.208				
CBT+ST	Pre	36.20	7.223	10	45.852	9	.000
	Post	153.20	7.814				

\*Significant at .001 level

A paired sample t-test was carried out to compare marital adjustments before and after CBT +ST treatment conditions. There was a significant variation difference in the pre-CBT scores (M= 28.600, SD=14.916) and post-CBT scores (M= 82.800, SD= 12.682) conditions;  $t(9) = 7.455, p=.000$ . When paired sample t-test was conducted in before and after ST treatment conditions. There was a significant variation in the scores for pre-ST (M=32.700, SD= 9.092) and post-ST scores (M= 140.60, SD= 8.208), conditions;  $t(9) = 29.563, p=.000$ . The paired sample t-test when conducted in before and after CBT+ST treatment conditions. There was a significant variation difference in the scores for pre-CBT+ST scores (M= 36.20, SD= 7.223) and post-CBT+ST scores (M= 153.20, SD=7.814) conditions;  $t(9) = 45.852, p=.000$ .

**Table 2.3- Descriptive and ANOVA of all the 4 groups (N=40) MA (post-intervention assessment).**

Therapy	Mean	SDs	F value	Sig.
CBT	82.80	12.68		
ST	140.60	8.20	290.705	.000
CBT+ST	156.10	3.98		
Control group	28.60	14.91		
Total	101.30	51.45		

A one-way ANOVA revealed that there was a statistically significant variation in the four groups on the variable of marital satisfaction. ( $F(290.705), p = .000$ ).

**Table 2.4- Post hoc analysis (Tukey HSD) of pairwise comparison of post-test intervention for all 4 groups on variables MA.**

Therapy	Therapy	Mean differences	Sig.
CBT+ST	CT	70.40	.000
CBT+ST	ST	15.60	0.014
CBT+ST	Control group	124.60	.000
CT	ST	-57.80	.000
CT	Control group	54.20	.000
ST	Control group	112.00	5.05

#### 4. DISCUSSION

The current study is an endeavour to examine the impact of 3 different treatment conditions i.e., CBT, ST, and combined CBT+ST in the treatment of various sexual dysfunctions. There is a significant difference obtained in the pairwise comparison of pre and post-test intervention which implies that all treatment groups are significant that shows CBT treatment itself is good and ST treatment respectively but the effectiveness of CBT+ST has a significant impact on sexual dysfunction and marital satisfaction which has been accepting the hypothesis 2. As evident from the above results, in the current study CBT and ST appeared to reduce sexual symptoms and improvement in marital satisfaction

and emotional adjustment between the couples. Additionally, the patients showed improvements in sexual dysfunction and other related areas months after treatment. In cases of sexual dysfunction, CBT and ST together can produce better results. The CBT techniques support the modification of these negative thought patterns to more constructive ones. By incorporating the thought rationalization process, what is the evidence of that thought, reframe the thoughts with the alternative thought process which reduces irrational thoughts. In other words, 1. Notice your thoughts (the first step is to become aware of and stop any self-talk or negative ideas.). 2. Ask 'What are the odds?' (What are the possibilities that the negative event you are concerned about will occur?). 3. Reframe/ Replace your thoughts (the next step is to replace your sexual negative (unhelpful) thought with a helpful one. CBT for sexual dysfunction includes both behavioral and cognitive interventions and sexual therapy involves all types of intimacies which can enhance your marital satisfaction which includes various sexual activities like sensate focus, non-genital sensate focus, penetrative sensate focus, as well as genital sensate focus. Such Combination of strategies, couples have also reported a high level of changes in their physiological or emotional states. Most couples dealing with sexual dysfunctions can improve very intuitively if they approach the right treatment frequently from time to time to increase their marital satisfaction (Osborne, 1981). The studies proposed that there is a huge deficit in dealing with psychosexually dysfunctional men not approaching the treatment at the early stage reportedly a considerable 9.2% to 13% of psychiatric outpatients and 30% of men having sexual disorder in India. (Kumar, 1983; Kar & Verma, 1978; Catalan, 1981).

Both techniques have physiological and psychological aspects in the treatment process. CBT has a mental basis and sex therapy has a physical. It implies cognitive therapy works with the mental framework to treat the sexual dysfunctions psychologically whereas sex therapy rules out the organic parameter which involves sexually dysfunctional conditions which has been proven by hypothesis 3 and 4 shown in the table 1.3,1.4 and 2.3, 2.4 where the combination applies that CBT and ST implies the best treatment for treating the sexual dysfunction and improving marital satisfaction.

Another explanation to acquire these outcomes might be that when procedures that are at the basis of CBT that is, cognitive restructuring, skills training, and engages in pleasurable activities were included and utilized in combination with ST in the therapy. They supported the other partner's growth and development as well as helping one acquire greater skills and a feeling of control over one's life. As when the couple engages in pleasure or sexual activities they were able to understand the link between their physical pleasure and also the marital satisfaction. In several studies, researchers investigated whether combining medical as well as psychological interferences for people or couples who experience sexual dysfunction suggests an alternative method of therapy that improves therapeutic efficiency, treatment satisfaction, and interpersonal relationships while lowering patient dropout rates. (Melnik & Abdo, 2005; Althof, 1994; Perelman, 2006).

In a number of studies, researchers looked at the possibility that treating sexual dysfunction in individuals or couples with a combination of medical and psychological interventions is an alternative form of therapy that improves therapeutic success, patient retention, and relationship satisfaction. Sex therapy improves the activities and the mood of the couples, this further helps in enhancing the sense of emotional attachment and affection, providing a sense of marital satisfaction. Couples were assisted by CBT in identifying their fearful thoughts related to sexual performance and replacing them with more positive ones. Researcher reviewed the data indicates that the aspects of both cognitive and behavioral elements of sexual problems offer to deal effectively with the clinical parameters of both the cognitive and behavioral strategies which are prominent in sexual problems (Bagcioglu 2012; Altunoluk 1989; Bez 2002; Soylemez, H; Asik, & Emul, (2012).

Most researchers have earlier only focused on CBT. Finally, the approach of CBT and ST can actually provide a new paradigm to deal with various sexual dysfunctions effectively and can have better mutual marital satisfaction. As indicated, both CBT and ST when combined together fulfill the better criteria for treating sexual dysfunctions and the results also support the proposed study it can be concluded that when Combined CBT+ST is considered an intervention for sexual dysfunctions and increases marital satisfaction.



## 5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the effectiveness of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and sex therapy in improving marital adjustment and sexual function among patients with premature ejaculation has been well-established. The findings from various studies indicate that both CBT and sex therapy interventions have demonstrated positive outcomes in addressing the challenges associated with premature ejaculation and its impact on marital relationships and sexual satisfaction.

CBT, with its focus on modifying negative thoughts, beliefs, and behaviors, has proven to be an effective therapeutic approach in treating premature ejaculation. It helps patients identify and challenge cognitive distortions related to sexual performance anxiety, enhances communication and problem-solving skills within the marital relationship, and promotes the development of healthy sexual behaviors and techniques. By targeting the underlying psychological factors contributing to premature ejaculation, CBT empowers patients to take control of their sexual experiences and enhance their overall sexual satisfaction.

Sex therapy, on the other hand, provides a comprehensive and holistic approach to addressing both the psychological and physical aspects of premature ejaculation. Through various techniques and interventions such as sensate focus exercises, communication training, and sexual education, sex therapy helps couples improve their sexual communication, intimacy, and overall sexual functioning. By addressing the emotional and relational dynamics within the marital context, sex therapy fosters a supportive and understanding environment that encourages sexual exploration and enhances marital satisfaction.

The combination of CBT and sex therapy approaches has shown promising results, with studies reporting significant improvements in both premature ejaculation symptoms and marital adjustment. These interventions not only focus on the individual with premature ejaculation but also involve the partner in the treatment process, recognizing the importance of mutual involvement and shared responsibility in improving sexual function and satisfaction.

It is important to note that the effectiveness of CBT and sex therapy may vary among individuals, and a tailored approach to treatment is essential. Factors such as the severity of premature ejaculation, the presence of comorbidities, and individual preferences should be taken into consideration when designing and implementing therapeutic interventions.

In conclusion, CBT and sex therapy have proven to be effective interventions for addressing premature ejaculation, enhancing marital adjustment, and improving sexual function. These therapeutic approaches provide valuable tools and strategies to help individuals and couples overcome the challenges associated with premature ejaculation, leading to improved overall well-being and relationship satisfaction. Further research and continued advancements in these therapeutic modalities will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the optimal treatment approaches for patients with premature ejaculation.

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