

Somayeh Motamednia, PhD

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Research Interests

- Personality disorders (borderline personality organization)
- Identity integration and identity pathology
- Psychoanalytic psychotherapy
- Transference-Focused Psychotherapy (TFP) in group settings
- Object Relations theory
- Psychoanalytic group processes
- Personality assessment (projective methods and structured/semi-structured interviews)

Clinical Orientation

Psychoanalytic orientation with extensive training and clinical experience in Object Relations-based psychotherapy.

Advanced training and clinical application of Transference-Focused Psychotherapy (TFP), particularly in relation to personality organization and group psychotherapy.

Education

PhD in Clinical Psychology, Shahed University, Tehran (2017–2023)

- Dissertation: The Efficacy of Transference-Focused Group Psychotherapy (TFGP) on Identity Integration in Individuals with Borderline Personality Organization
- Three-year research project, including one year of intensive (twice-weekly) group psychotherapy
- Advisor: Mohammad Reza Shaeiri
- Ranked among top students in doctoral comprehensive examination
- Recognized as a distinguished talent

MA in Clinical Psychology, Shahed University (2013–2015)

- Ranked 1st in the program
- Thesis: Rorschach-based personality assessment in gender dysphoria

BA in Clinical Psychology, Shahed University (2009–2013)

- Ranked 3rd among cohort

Honors and Distinctions

- Top 0.01% in Iranian National Entrance Exam for MA (approx. rank 43 among ~480,000)
- Top student (MA program)
- Top student (doctoral comprehensive exam)
- Recognized as distinguished talent

Advanced Clinical Training

- Object Relations-based psychoanalytic psychotherapy – multi-year training and practice
- Transference-Focused Psychotherapy (TFP): Training through academic supervision, structured programs, and sustained clinical application
- Certificate in General Psychiatry Management for Borderline Personality Disorder – Harvard Medical School
- Personality assessment training: Rorschach, TAT, AAI, AAP, STIPO, SWAP, CCRT

Clinical Experience

Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist (Individual), Tehran (2016–Present)

- Long-term psychoanalytic psychotherapy with focus on personality disorders

- Personality assessment using projective methods and structured and semi-structured interviews
- Psychodynamic case formulation

Group Psychotherapist, Tehran (2018–Present)

- Design and conduct long-term psychoanalytic group psychotherapy programs
- Focus on identity integration and personality organization
- Work across clinical and non-clinical populations (in-person & online)
- Pioneering the clinical application of Transference-Focused Group Psychotherapy (TFGP) in Iran in structured, long-term group settings

Founder & Director, Authentic Institute of Psychotherapy (Daricheh), Tehran (2022–Present)

- Founded and lead an institute integrating clinical services, training, and research
- Oversee psychotherapy programs and clinical frameworks
- Develop educational and research structures

Clinical Supervisor / Head of Clinical Services, Haftad Clinic, Tehran (2019–2021)

- Appointed to a clinical supervisory and leadership role within an active psychotherapy setting
- Supervised clinicians working with personality disorders and complex cases
- Oversaw intake processes, case formulation, and treatment planning

Teaching Experience

Lecturer / Psychological Educator, Tehran (2019–Present)

- Design and deliver structured training programs in psychoanalytic psychotherapy and personality disorders
- Provide specialized training in personality assessment (projective methods and structured/semi-structured interviews)
- Teach psychoanalytic group psychotherapy and group dynamics through both didactic and experiential formats
- Develop and facilitate long-term experiential training groups
- Teach research methodology and statistical analysis in applied clinical contexts

Research Experience

- Doctoral research on Transference-Focused Group Psychotherapy (TFGP) and identity integration
- Design and implementation of intensive group psychotherapy intervention
- Research focus: personality pathology, identity processes, and psychoanalytic group processes

Publications

Manuscripts under review:

- The Efficacy of Transference-Focused Group Psychotherapy on Identity Integration in Individuals with Borderline Personality Organization
- The Efficacy of Transference-Focused Group Psychotherapy on Improving Object Relations Issues in Individuals with Borderline Personality Organization

Selected publications (Personality, Identity & Projective Assessment):

- Distinction of Projections in Patients with Gender Dysphoria Using the Rorschach Test
- Comparison of Personality Traits Between Patients with Gender Dysphoria and Non-Patients Using the Rorschach Test
- A Pathological Approach in the Scope of Culture and Family: Examining Projections in Gender Dysphoria (Rorschach-Based)
- Comparison of Personality Traits of Patients with Gender Dysphoria Who Have Undergone Gender Transition and Those Who Have Not

Psychometrics & Clinical Assessment:

- Validation of the Cues Resulting in Sexual Desire Scale (CSDS)
- Examination of the Psychometric Properties of the Sexual Quality of Life Questionnaire for Women (SQOL-F)

- Preliminary Examination of the Psychometric Characteristics of the Mood and Anxiety Symptoms Questionnaire (MASQ-D30)
- Determining the Validity and Reliability of the Body Appreciation Scale (BAS) in an Iranian Sample

Additional Clinical Research:

- The Role of Metacognitive Beliefs and Anxiety Sensitivity in Predicting Social Anxiety
- Comparison of Mood Symptoms, Anxiety, and Body Image in Patients with Gender Dysphoria and Non-Patients

Academic Service

Reviewer for peer-reviewed journals in clinical psychology (personality, identity, and assessment research)

Interdisciplinary Work

- Consultant to writers, filmmakers, and directors on character development
- Focus on personality structure, unconscious processes, and psychological depth in narrative construction
- Participation in interdisciplinary artistic and performance-based projects

Organizational Work

- Group-based interventions within organizations
- Focus on group dynamics, personality structures, and relational patterns in organizational contexts

Clinical & Professional Skills

- Psychoanalytic psychotherapy (Object Relations-based)
- Transference-Focused Group Psychotherapy (TFGP)
- Psychoanalytic group therapy
- Personality assessment using projective methods (Rorschach, TAT, AAI, AAP, STIPO, SWAP, CCRT)
- Structured and semi-structured clinical interviewing
- Clinical case formulation (personality organization & identity pathology)
- Research design and scientific publication
- Peer-review and academic evaluation of scientific articles
- Design of structured assessment frameworks
- Design of experiential psychological exercises and therapeutic games
- Group intervention design and facilitation
- Character development consulting for writers and filmmakers

Licenses

- Licensed Clinical Psychologist – Organization of Psychology (No. 1958902)
- Technical Responsibility License – Welfare Organization (No. 8298/998/717)
- License for Establishment of a Psychotherapy Institute – Welfare Organization (No. 427322/028/717)