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Topic: EPO08 - e-Poster Oral 08: Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Association of Anxiety, Anxiety Sensitivity and Depressive Symptoms with Aggression and Disruptive Behavioral Disorders in Children with ADHD

A. Bilgic¹, A.E. Tufan², S. Yilmaz¹, O. Ozcan³, S. Ozmen⁴, D. Oztop⁴, S. Türkoglu⁵, O.F. Akça¹, A. Yar⁶, U. Isik¹, R. Colak Sivri¹, H. Bilgiç⁴, A. Irmak⁴, Y.E. Dönmez³, P. Con Bayhan³, O. Uçur³, M.A. Cansiz², U. Savci²

¹Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Meram School of Medicine Necmettin Erbakan University, Konya, Turkey ; ²Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, School of Medicine Izzet Baysal University, Bolu, Turkey ; ³Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, School of Medicine Inonu University, Malatya, Turkey ; ⁴Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, School of Medicine Erciyes University, Kayseri, Turkey ; ⁵Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, School of Medicine Selcuk University, Konya, Turkey ; ⁶Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Konya, Turkey ; ⁶Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Konya Education and Research Hospital, Konya, Turkey

Introduction: Numerous factors including anxiety, anxiety sensitivity (AS), and depression were reported to be relevant to the aggression both for disruptive behavioral disorders (DBD) in children and for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), but the pathways through which they act are insufficiently understood.

Objectives: To investigate the role of anxiety, AS, and depression in the relationship betw een aggression and DBD symptoms in ADHD children.

Methods: The sample consisted of 342 treatment naïve children with ADHD aged 9-17 years. ADHD severity and comorbid DBD were assessed via parent and teacher rated Turgay DSM-IV-Based Child and Adolescent Behavioral Disorders Screening and Rating Scale. Severity of anxiety, AS, depression, and reactive and proactive agression of children were evaluated by self-report inventories. The association between DBD and other psychiatric variables was evaluated with two separate structural equation models.

Results: Relationships of psychiatric variables and DBD symptoms were presented in Figures 1 and 2.

Discussion: These results may suggest the presence of a vicious circle betw een anxiety, reactive aggression and DBD in ADHD children. How ever, global AS seems to have a protective effect on the development of DBD, probably due to its role in aversive conditioning.

Figure 1: Structural model for the predictors of parent-rated disruptive behavioural disorders symptoms in children with ADHD

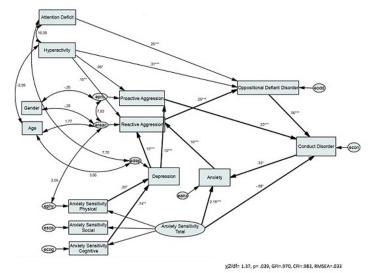
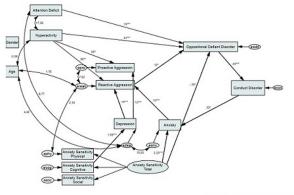


Figure 2: Structural model for the prediction of teacher-rated disputive behavioural disorders synchrons in children with ADHD



χ2/df= 1.47, g=.013, GR=.967, GR=.970, RMSEA=.03