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The Relationship Between Comorbid Psychiatric Illnesses and Psychopathy Levels On Male Individuals with Antisocial Personality Disorder in the Turkish Community

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Introduction: The studies investigating antisocial personality disorder are mostly applied to subjects in prison.) In the literature, it is shown that 50% - 75 % of the prisoners are diagnosed as ASPD, and only 15% -25% of the patients can be defined "psychopathic". Comorbidity rates may change in different populations.

Objective: In this study, we aimed to investigate comorbid disorders in a Turkish patient sample with the diagnosis of antisocial personality disorder (ASPD) who are not in prison and we investigated its relationship with psychopathy levels.

Methods: 140 male subjects were included in the study. None of them had been in the prison on admission. They all had the diagnoses of ASPD according to DSM-IV (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-IV) diagnostic criteria. Socio-demographic data form, Structured Clinical Interview for DSM- Axis 1 Disorders and Axis 2 Disorders (SCID-I, SCID-II), and Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R) were applied.

Results: Most commonly seen comorbid disorders were as follows: substance use disorders (66,9%), alcohol use disorders (65,4%) and adjustment disorders (36,4%). In the high psychopathy group 'Current and Lifetime Alcohol and Substance Use Disorder" and 'Generalized Anxiety Disorder" were detected significantly more than those of the low psychopathy group.

Conclusion: This study supplies important epidemiological data about ASPD comorbidity. Of note, none of the subjects were in the prison during the study. Psychopathy also seems like a predictor in comorbid situations.