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THE BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL OUTCOMES OF MIGRATION IN CHILDREN

R.S. Diler¹*, A. Avci¹, G. Seydaoğlu², N.Z. Alparslan². ¹Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Department, Cukurova University School of Medicine, Adana; ²Biostatistics Department, Cukurova University School of Medicine, Adana, Turkey

Object: Migration is one of the most important problems of Turkey. 30.000 people are estimated to migrate to Adana from poor eastern villages per month. This study aimed to assess depression, anxiety and self-esteem in children, whose families had migrated from eastern region to Adana.

Method: Five elementary school, in which immigrants generally locates in Adana was selected. 526 elementary students who were at 4. and 5. classes were evaluated in classroom conditions. 182 children were immigrants, 344 children were not. Socio-demographic variables were taken separately for two groups and Depression Inventory for Children (CDI), State-Trait Anxiety Inventory for Children (STAI-C) and Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory (CSEI) were administered. At the same time Rutter's Teachers Rating Scale (RTRS) was administered to teachers.

Results: The statistical significances between the groups as follows; (for CDI p = 0.00, for state anxiety p = 0.01, for trait anxiety p = 0.03, for CSEI p = 0.00, for RTRS p = 3.87). The other variables were analyzed statistically.

Conclusion: Although the sample is taken from the suburban areas the immigrant children were seemed to have more emotional problems.

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IMPULSIVITY AND SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR

B. Ripke*, M. Israel, W. Felber, O. Bach. Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Dresden University of Technology, Fetscherstr. 74, D-01307 Dresden, Germany

Intoduction: According to Barratt and Stanford (1995) impulsiveness as a personality trait relates to the control of thoughts and behaviour. One of the questions which still remain to be clarified is to what extend suicidal behaviour is a consequence of a disordered impulse control. The cognitive and behavioural characteristics of impulsiveness can be assessed by means of personality inventories and performance tests.

Goal: The aim of the present study is to investigate the role of impulsivity within the context of suicidal behaviour related to neuropsychological data and results of self-report.

Methods: 40 patients showing at least one suicide attempt in their past medical history were included in this study. Subgroups were classified according to the criteria of Felber (1993) and DSM III-R criteria. Patients with psychotic symptoms, substance abuse, neurological disorders and other comorbidity were excluded. Cognitive tempo, time estimation and problem solving were measured using a standardized neuropsychological test battery. Impulsivity, emotional states, time awareness and sensation seeking were assessed by self report inventories.

Results: Analysis of our preleminary data shows that the number of suicide attempts is correlated to the degree of impulsiveness. Also inverse trends of significance were found for the time span following the last event of suicidal behaviour. In their cognitive performance suicide attempters were not found to behave as a homogeneous group.

Conclusion: Our data is in concordance with previous studies suggesting the existence of clinical subgroups in relation to cognitive characteristics. In addition, disordered impulse control seems to be partly responsable for certain forms of suicidal behaviour. The study is ongoing to confirm initial results.

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EFFICACY OF CLOZAPINE THERAPY IN AGGRESSION

M. Jašović-Gašić¹*, C. Cmobarić², Č. Miljević³, S. Milovanović¹.

¹Instute of psychiatry, Belgrade; ²KBC Zvezdara, Belgrade; ³RZPZ
"Dr Laza Lazarević", Yugoslavia

Hostile or angry feelings, thoughts, or actions directed toward an object or person are frequent amongst schizophrenic inpatients. Pharmacological management of aggression in this subpopulation of patients is a difficult clinical dilemma. Pilot trials with various psychotropic drugs have shown that impulsive aggression may be the most common behavioural correlate of central serotonergic dysfunction.

The aim of the study was to investigate the efficacy of clozapine as an atypical antipsychotic agent with potent 5-HT antagonistic properties in reduction of impulsiveness and aggression in schizophrenic patients. 20 male inpatients ages from 26-50 years old (mean 38.9), were included in study based on scores of PANSS scale and prospectively evaluated for aggressiveness and impulsiveness for a period of 6 months. The following scales were used: PANSS, Impulsivity Scale and Overt Aggression Scale. The assessment was done at baseline level, two weeks later, four weeks later, than monthly (2, 3, 4, 5) and after the treatment-6 months later. There were not dropouts during the study.

General psychopathology cluster of PANSS scale reflected substantial improvements over 6 months treatment: from 41.8 + /- 7.76 on baseline level to 33.52 + /- 9.79 at the end of the treatment. Also, there was significant improvement in aggressive-78% and impulsive 45% behaviour.

Based on these results we concluded that clozapin may be effective in schizophrenic patients for reduction both of psychotic symptoms and aggressive and impulsive behaviour.

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THE TEMPERAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS IN A GROUP IN PATIENTS ADMITTED AT JUDICIAL PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

Andrea Pacileo
l $^{\bullet}$, Antonio Piro
l I Casa Circondariale Rebibbia N.C., Roma, Italy

While the authors describe temperamental characteristics of a group of in a patients at our Judicial Psychiatric Hospital, they also analise a series of fenomena inherent the sphere of affects and their farmacological responses.

In this work 50 cases have been described of patients who had been administred long-acting drugs. It was observed that their disphoric state, which is typical of confined comunitis, become gradually reduced in its intensity, while the peculiar temperamental aspects remained invaried.

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THE PSYCHOSOMATIC DISSOCIATION IN EATING DISORDERS

A. Ciocca*, K. Moscianese, C. La Rosa, S. De Risio¹. ¹Institute of Psychiatry and Psychology; Catholic University of Sacred Heart School of Medicine, Rome, Italy

Starting from the "mind/body" relationship, we propose a new interpretation of the psychopathologic basis of eating disorders,