P03.443

ADAS-COG (ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ASSESSMENT SCALE-COGNITIVE SUBSCALE)-VALIDATION OF THE SLOVAK VERSION

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ADAS was designed to measure the severity of all of the most important symptoms associated with Alzheimer's disease. The ADAS-cog is the most popular cognitive testing instrument in use in clinical trials of nootropics. It consists of 11 items measring disturbances of memory, language, praxis, attention and other cognitive abilities which are often referred as the core symptoms of Alzheimer's disease (AD). The ADAS-cog was translated into Slovak and then back to English. Three items needed cultural adaptation-translation which is conceptually equivalent to the original and culturally acceptable in Slovakia. The present study examines the comprehensibility and ability to discriminate betwen demented an non-demented controls with depressive disorders.

Study participants included 15 patients with the clinical diagnosis of mild or moderate Alzheimer's dementia, fulfilling NINCDS/ADRDA criteria for probably AD and 15 control nondemented, depressed elderly subjects. Test administration takes 40-50 minutes, patients with mild degree of dementia have cooperated well during the whole examination. Significant differences of the mean global score values between demented and controll patients, and between mild and moderate demented were found.

P03.444

A STUDY IN INFERTILITY: PSYCHODYNAMIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF WOMEN UNDERGOING IVF TREATMENT

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In the past few years interest in IVF (In Vitro Fertilization) methods has increased. There is also an abundance of studies concerning the psychological aspects of IVF, especially as concerns issues such as psychological influences of infertility and assisted reproductive technology on the well-being of individuals and psychological and psychodynamic factors inducing infertility.

The objective of this prospective study is to examine, 1) the psychodynamic and psychosomatic dimensions of infertility, and 2) the psychological parameters of IVF. Until now, we have studied 40 women who, at the time of the interviews which we conducted were about to take part in an IVF programme at the IVF department of a major Athens hospital, due to their own or to their partners' infertility.

We recorded the demographic data for women and their partners, the causes of infertility, as well as previous IVF attempts, if applicable. Furthermore, we supplied them with questionnaires measuring anxiety, depression, aggression, alexithymia, narcissism and personality organisation. The same questionnaires have now been provided to the participants for a second time after approximately one year. Participants answer the second questionnaires irrespective of the outcome of the IVF attempt, in order for us to study the psychological influences of IVF techniques on these women.

The statistical analysis indicated that there is a positive correlation between increased depression, increased anxiety and the negative outcome of IVF treatment. Also, the results indicated that there is a positive correlation between alexithymia and the negative outcome of IVF treatment.

P03.445

PERSONALITY'S FEATURES IN EATING DISORDERS

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Introduction: Recently, the differences on personality trait have been stidied in various research on Eating Disorders. These studies are based on two theories, the categorial which assesses the comorbility between personality disorders according to DSM-III-R axis II and eating disorders and the dimensional which assesses the no clinic characteristics of personality on subjeects with eating disorders.

Objetive: Assess the differences of personality traits on the various subtypes of Eating Disorders.

Method: The personality have been assessed on 45 outpatient females with Eating Disorders according to DSM-IV: 15 patients with anorexia nervosa Type restrictive, 15 patients with anorexia with binge/purge episodes and 15 bulimic patients. The 45 patients completed the MMPI, the EPQ, the STAI and the sociodemographic factors, time of evolution and BMI.

Results: The study shows a trend to exhibit a personality characterized by inflexibility, excess of control, obsessive thinks and perfectionism in patients with diagnostic of anorexia nervosa Type restrictive, whereas patients with binge/purge episodes show a profile with higher neurotic index, decreased introversion, histrionic traits and affective lability, closer to traits of bulimic patients which present increased extraversion, impulsiveness and unstable emotions.

P03.446

ADOPTED IMAGE OF DISEASE AS THE BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PHENOMENON OF THE THERAPEUTIC ALLIANCE WITH SCHIZOPHRENIC AND DEPRESSIVE PATIENTS

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The theoretical construction of existing in the psychic of patients such phenomenon as Adopted Image of Disease (AID) and the hypothesis that the structure and the content of Adopted Image of Disease and their differences with the an expert assessment of doctor lead to the difficulties in the Doctor-Patient interaction have become the background of the current investigation.

For the confirmation of this hypothesis we examined 60 patients with paranoid Schizophrenia and special control group of Depressive patients by a set of tests: Inventory to biography and development of disorders, Inventory to Adopted Image of Disease, BPRS, FKE, KKG. It turned out that in the most cases (87.5%) the opinions of doctors and patients concerning causes, manifestations, treatment and prognoses were absolutely different and it can't be explained by the increasing of critic function of schizophrenic patients because we have already received the same results with somatic and depressive patients in our previous investigations. As a results, patients had a treatment and the system of interaction with their doctors which didn't conform to their notions about disease and the 75% of the patients were not satisfied with the contact with the doctor and the therapy.

Conclusion: AID is the basic psychological factor to reach the therapeutic alliance between doctor and patients. Therapeutic strategies of the doctors, rather adequate according to the positions of biological approach, but which don't consider the Adopted