

interact with stressful life events in relation to potential endophenotypes for affective disorders.

Method: In a cross-sectional high-risk study, healthy monozygotic (MZ) and dizygotic (DZ) twins with (high-risk twins) and without (low-risk twins) a co-twin history of affective disorder were identified through nation wide registers.

Results: No differences were found between the 115 high- and 81 low-risk twins with respect to the distribution of the alleles of the serotonin transporter gene. However, the genotype interacted significantly with recent stressful life events on subclinical depressive symptoms and neuroticism score. No relation was found between 5-HTTLPR genotype and salivary cortisol.

Conclusion: The distribution of the alleles of the serotonin transporter gene was not associated with a genetic predisposition for affective disorder. The presence of the short allele of the 5-HTTLPR gene and the experience of recent stressful life events seems to be associated with a higher level of subclinical depressive symptoms and higher neuroticism score.

Poster Session I: Eating Disorders

P0329

Bulimia among female students in Marrakesh

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Introduction: Bulimia is a public health problem, there are no studies assessing this disorder in the university environment in our country. The aim of the work was to determine the prevalence of bulimia and unusual eating behaviour, to assess their sociocultural and physical profile, and to evaluate the depression as psychiatric comorbidity.

Population and Methods: We carried out an epidemiology's investigation among 480 female's students in four universities and one higher education school, using a questionnaire which allows the study of sociodemographic and physical characteristics (BMI), the study of the bulimia (BITE) and the assessment of depression (Beck score).

Results: 4% of students had bulimia and 32.2% had an unusual eating behavior. 21.05% had a severe bulimia. The appetite suppressant was the most used ways to lose weight in the two groups and urban origin was predominant among the two groups. The lifestyle had no influence on the two groups. The medical school had most of bulimia and unusual eating behavior. Bulimia was predominant in the middle of university studies and the unusual eating behavior was at the beginning and the end of the studies. Bulimic female students were more over weighted and those with unusual eating behavior were more normal stoutness. Depression was common in both of the groups.

Conclusion: this study demonstrates that bulimia and unusual eating behavior exist in Marrakech and similar surveys in other towns are necessary to better determine the prevalence of this disorder in our society and seek risk factors.

P0330

Personality and psychopathological traits in spanish eating disorder males: A comparative study

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Objective: To explore gender differences on personality and clinical features in patients with eating disorders (ED) and a healthy control sample.

Methods: 60 ED males and 60 ED females, consecutively admitted to our Hospital and diagnosed according to DSM-IV-R criteria, were matched for age and diagnosis. A comparison group of 120 non clinical people (60 males, 60 females) were also collected. Measures: TCI-R, SCL-90-R, EDI-2.

Results: Female ED patients scored significantly higher than males on Drive for Thinness, Body Dissatisfaction, Interoceptive Awareness and total EDI ($p < 0.002$). However, these differences were not significant when compared with controls. ED women exhibited higher SCL-90-R Somatization, Interpersonal Sensitivity, Depression, Anxiety, Hostility, GSI, PSDI and PST scores ($p < 0.002$). Regarding personality traits, high Harm Avoidance, Persistence, Cooperativeness ($p < 0.018$) and low Self-Directedness ($p = 0.001$) were associated with an ED diagnosis in males. Significant differences across ED subdiagnoses were also observed. Lifetime obesity was significantly associated with ED in males ($p = 0.008$). However, when specific ED diagnosis was entered, the gender effect of obesity disappeared ($p = 0.081$).

Conclusions: Although gender specific differences in clinical and psychopathological features across ED patients have been observed, there are important similarities in current ED features between ED males and females, suggesting that, in spite of having some gender-specific associated traits, EDs are not different with regard to gender. These data encourage our continued efforts toward using similar strategies to detect and treat EDs among men and women.

P0331

Levels of cytokines (TNF- α & IL-6) and personality in patients with eating disorders

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Background: The underlying pathophysiology of Eating Disorders (EDs) is dependent on complex interactions between psychological and neuroendocrine factors. Pro-inflammatory cytokines are known to decrease food intake and increase risk of depression. Psychological

stress and psychiatric illness are factors known to reduce immune function and thus increase level of cytokines.

Aim: The purpose of the present study was to examine a possible raise in cytokines as measured by IL-6 and TNF- α in ED patients, further the aim was to analyze relations between cytokines and personality traits.

Methods: Female patients with eating disorders (N=28) recruited consecutively from an inpatient clinic, were compared to age-matched healthy females (N=12). Quantikine[®] HS, Human TNF- α /TNFSF1 was used to detect levels of TNF- α in patient and control sera whereas Quantikine[®] Human IL-6 immunoassay was used to estimate IL-6. Personality traits were measured by using the Karolinska Scales of Personality (KSP).

Results: A one-tailed t-test showed that the patient group had tendencies to increased levels of cytokines TNF- α ($t=-1.61, df=38, p=0.057$), while their mean IL-6 level was not higher than controls ($t=-1.19, df=38, p=0.12$). The correlation between TNF- α and IL-6 were non-significant ($r=-0.04$). Patients with high levels (1 SD above norm mean) of Monotony Avoidance ($t=2.34, df=22, p<0.02$), Verbal Aggression ($t=3.13, df=22, p<0.01$) and Irritability ($t=2.50, df=22, p<0.02$) displayed significantly higher levels of IL-6 than the other ED patients.

Conclusion: Results indicated a tendency of increased levels of cytokines in patients with EDs. Personality traits reflecting impulsivity and aggression were found to be related to high levels of cytokines in the present study.

P0332

Subthreshold eating disorder in child psychiatry

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Aims: There are few data on the prevalence of subthreshold pediatric psychiatric disorders, when the child/adolescent doesn't qualify for any mental disorder according to the classification systems (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Fourth Edition (DSM-IV) and International Classification of Mental and Behavioral Disorders 10th Edition (ICD-10)), however the symptoms cause difficulties in the everyday life of the child/adolescent. The aim of the present study was to estimate the prevalence of subthreshold eating disorders among hospitalized children.

Methods: We examined 106 hospitalized children/adolescents aged under 18 in the Vadaskert Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital and Outpatient Clinic, Budapest, Hungary. Threshold (DSM-IV) and subthreshold disorders were evaluated with the Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview Kid (M.I.N.I. Kid).

Results: There was no single child hospitalized due to threshold eating disorder during the study period, but 7.5% of them had the diagnoses of current subthreshold eating disorder. In all cases it was subthreshold bulimia nervosa. Subthreshold bulimia nervosa was always a comorbid condition with a threshold disorder.

Conclusion: Our findings indicate, that clinicians should think about the presence of subthreshold eating disorder as a comorbid condition among hospitalized children.

P0333

Temps-a scale in patients after surgery operation because of pathological obesity

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The purpose of this study was to assess the temperament and in patients with pathological obesity using computer version of TEMPS-A scale. Also the intensity of depressed symptoms using Beck Depression scale were used. The TEMPS-A scale is a self-evaluation measure to assess five affective temperaments: depressive, cyclothymic, hyperthymic, irritable and anxious. The Polish version of the scale was used. 89 patients (52 female and 37 male) aged 18-56 years with BMI > 40 after operation with Mason method (VGB) because of pathological obesity.

The results obtained show the highest prevalence of depressed symptoms in subjective assessment in investigated patients is high, the medium or serious intensity of depression was found in 50% patients. The results of TEMPS-A scale show the high prevalence of irritable and depressive temperament in investigated group. The comparison of the results obtained by male and female patients show highest prevalence of depressive and anxious temperament in women, while the irritable and hyperthymic temperament in men. The intensity of depressed symptoms in Beck scale were correlated with depressive temperament in female.

The results show that TEMPS-A scale may be useful tool for assessment of temperament in pathological obesity.

P0334

Eating attitudes of adolescent females

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Introduction: Adolescence is a period of significant physical, emotional and intellectual changes, as well as changes in social roles, relations and expectations. Adolescent females, often preoccupied with physical appearance, express discontent with their figure, body weight and want to lose weight.

Objective: Our objective was to inquire eating attitudes among adolescent females.

Method: Sample consisted of adolescent females, age of 16 - 17, first grade Economic and Medical Secondary School pupils. Survey questionnaire is self-esteem scale of eating disorders designed by the author. Response rate was 389 out of 419 (92.8%).

Results: Body Mass Index (BMI) less than 18.5 has 8.7% female adolescents. More than half want to be thinner, while 1/3 of adolescents find themselves whether thin or obese. Forty-seven percent (47%) of adolescents exercise sometimes, 15.4% exercise often while 1/5 goes on a diet sometimes or regularly. About 43% adolescents are sometimes or often terrified about being overweight, while 60% sometimes or often lose weight. About 2/3 adolescents are not