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**Perseverative Negative Thinking Mediates the Relationship Between Perfectionism Cognitions and Oc Symptoms**

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**Introduction:** Perfectionism and Perseverative negative thinking/PNT are both associated with OC symptoms. PNT is a prime candidate when investigating the pathway that links perfectionism to psychopathology.

**Objectives:** To investigate if PNT mediates the relationship between perfectionism cognitions and OC symptoms.

**Methods:** 464 (72.5% females) students (mean age 22.5±4.5 years) participated in an online survey including the Portuguese validated versions of Maudsley O-C Inventory/MOCI (to assess Doubting and Rumination/DR, Checking and Cleaning), Perseverative Thinking Questionnaire/PTQ-15 (Repetitive Thought/RT, Cognitive interference and unproductiveness/CIU), Multidimensional Perfectionism Cognitions Inventory/MPCI (Concern over Mistakes/CM, Personal Standards/PS, Pursuit of Perfection/PP). Negative affect/NA was assessed with the Profile of Mood States.

**Results:** Significant predictors of MOCI\_Total were PP (b=.131), RT (b=.228) and CIU (b=.254) (all p<.01). RT (95%CI BCa=.761-1.482) and CIU (95%CI=.813-1.551) were partial mediators of the relationship between MOCI\_Total and PP.

DR was predicted by CM (b=.107), PP (b=.107), RT (b=.333) and CIU (b=.281) (all p<.01). Both RT and CIU were partial mediators of the relationship between perfectionism and DR (all the 95%CI not contained zero).

Checking was predicted by PP (b=.120), RT (b=.154) and CIU (b=.267) (all p<.01). RT (95%CI=.027-.056) and CIU (95%CI=.086-.128) were partial mediators of the relationship between Checking and PP.

Cleaning was only predicted by PP (b=.174; p=.001).

QPP-15\_Total and IMCP\_Total were mediators of the association of MOCI\_Total (and its dimensions DR and Checking) with NA.