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IS EXECUTIVE FUNCTION DISTINGUISHING SCHIZOPHRENIA FROM BIPOLAR DISORDER?

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**Objectives:** There is an evidence for differential executive function in bipolar type 1 disorder (B1D) and schizophrenia that may tend different cognitive deficits and abnormalities. The objective of this study was to compare the executive function of B1D and schizophrenic patients.

**Method:** We studied 50 patients with B1D, and 50 schizophrenic participants. All participants completed the Wisconsin Card Sorting Test (WCST) of the Persian version. The participants were match in three basic variables which had most contributions in cognitive conditions in patients. They were Age, educational status and period of illness.

**Results:** The two patient groups had compared performance on the WCST. In the WCST, schizophrenic patients showed impairment executive function more than B1D patients.

**Conclusions:** Findings indicated that schizophrenic patients had more dysfunctions executive function than the Bipolar type 1 disorder patients. Although, both disorders may show the impairment in executive function, but the dysfunction in schizophrenia greater than bipolar type 1 disorder patients.