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Body dysmorphic factors and mental health in people seeking rhinoplastic surgery

M. Javanbakht¹, R. Zojaji², A. Javanbakht³, L. Moghaddam⁴.
¹Psychiatry Department, Azad Medical University, 22 Bahman Hospital, Mashhad, Iran ²Otolaryngology Department, Azad Medical University, 22 Bahman Hospital, Mashhad, Iran ³Psychiatry Department, Mashhad Medical University, Ebne Sina Hospital, Mashhad, Iran ⁴General Practitioner, 22 Bahman Hospital, Mashhad, Iran

Background and Aims: There has been increasing number of requests for cosmetic rhinoplastic surgery among Iranians in different age groups in recent years. One risk for those who undergo such plastic operations is the presence of body dysmorphic disorder (BDD) which might complicate the results and decrease the rate of satisfaction from surgery. This study was aimed to find the rate of BDD symptoms and mental problems in people demanding rhinoplastic surgery and a control group.

Methods: The scores of General Health Questionnaire (GHQ) and DCQ (Dysmorphic Concerns Questionnaire) were obtained for 50 people who were candidates for rhinoplastic surgery and the results were compared with normal control group.

Results: The total GHQ score ($p=0.0001$) and scores in anxiety ($p=0.009$), depression ($p=0.009$), and social dysfunction ($p<0.001$) sub-scales were higher among the study group compared with the control. Similarly, the DCQ score in the study group (10.67 ± 2.93) was obviously higher than the control group (2.54 ± 2.34) ($p=0.0001$). However, the score of somatisation sub-scale of GHQ ($p=0.06$) was not significantly different between the two groups.

Conclusions: Psychiatric evaluation in candidates of rhinoplastic surgery seems necessary to prevent unnecessary and repetitive surgical operations.

Keywords: Body Dysmorphic, Rhinoplasty, Mental, Depression, Anxiety

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A worldwide analysis of population structure and suicide risk

P.A. Jones¹, M. Cella¹, K.R. Lloyd^{1,2}. ¹Swansea University, Swansea, UK ²Swansea NHS Trust, Swansea, UK

Background and Aims: Suicide accounts for almost 2% of the deaths in the world, though the rates between countries vary considerably. Socio-economic factors play a significant role in mental well-being and the rate of suicide. There is a strong relationship between socio-economic development and the age-sex structure of a population with changes in one being reflected in changes in the other. Age-sex changes in a population associated with socio-economic development are typically, falling birth rate and increased life expectancy which changes the age ratios between young and old. This study investigated the relationship between population structure and reported rate of suicide.

Methods: Data were provided by US Census Bureau and WHO. Non-parametric correlation (Spearman's rho) was used to examine the relationship between population structure and reported rate of suicide. Initially, median age was used to describe population. In order to take into account the complexity of population age structure the data were described and indexed using the UNEX30 algorithm.

Results: A significant correlation was observed between the median age of the population and the rate of suicide (0.311 ; $p <$

0.001), but a higher level of correlation was observed between population structure and the reported rate of suicide (0.526 ; $p < 0.001$).

Conclusions: The findings support the hypothesis that the population age affects the reported rate of suicide, but more significantly, the age structure of the population shows a better relationship to the reported rate of suicide. This knowledge should be used to guide the direction of future research.

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Subthreshold visual stimulation in psychophysiological diagnosis of paraphilias

M.U. Kamenskov. V.P. Serbsky State Research Center of Social and Forensic Psychiatry, Moscow, Russia

Purpose: To compare various methods of visual stimulation (threshold and subthreshold) in psychophysiological diagnosis of paraphilias.

Materials and Methods: A total of 45 male sexual offenders were examined. All of them look through abnormal sexual photos. Physiological reactions such as skin-galvanic, cardiovascular, muscular reactions, and changes in chest and diaphragmatic respiration/breathing were recorded. During subthreshold stimulation slides' exposition time with masked image was 10 ms. During threshold stimulation slides' exposition time without masked image was 5000 ms. Psychophysiological examination's data were compared with results of clinical interview.

Results: Two patients' groups were studied: with paraphilias (27 pts) and without paraphilias (18 pts). In the first group the concurrency of threshold stimulation data was observed in 88,9 % of cases, at subthreshold stimulation - in 77,8 %. In 37 % at one method stimulation we were observed reactions to stimulus, relevant to paraphilias, on which reactions at the other method were absent. Only at subthreshold stimulations appeared reactions to those stimulus which were submitted in behavior, but not in imaginations and dreams. In these cases realization sexual perversion on altered states of consciousness, and in a post-criminal period was observed the partial amnesia. In the second group more than in half of cases were marked reactions only for normative sexual stimulus.

Conclusions: The threshold and subthreshold stimulations' data supplement each other in paraphilias' diagnosis.

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Stress and psychosocial determinants of formation of neurotic and affective disorders in patients with peptic ulcer

I.G. Kartashova¹, N.P. Garganeyeva², V.Y. Semke³. ¹Clinics, Mental Health Research Institute, Tomsk, Russia ²Polyclinical Therapy Chair, Siberian State Medical University, Tomsk, Russia ³Mental Health Research Institute, Tomsk, Russia

Objective: To study the role of psychosocial stressor factors in formation of neurotic and affective disorders in patients with PU of duodenum and stomach.

Material and Methods: In Borderline States Department of MHRI TSC SB RAMSci we examined 245 patients (male - 111; female - 134; mean age $43,28\pm 8,86$ years) with peptic ulcer and mental disorders (MD) of neurotic and affective level appearing to be causes of seeking by patients for a psychiatrist. In 24,9% of them PU was diagnosed for the first time under conditions of a psychiatric hospital.