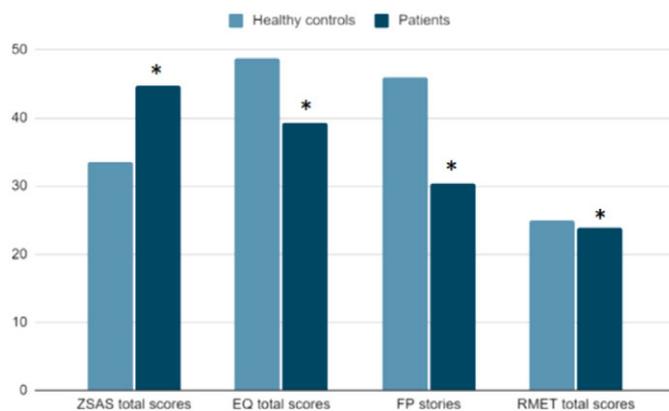


Introduction: Theory of Mind is defined as the ability to understand mental states of other people, and is notoriously impaired in patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder. A growing body of evidence suggests an impairment of Theory of Mind in several other psychopathological disorders. However, only few studies have assessed Theory of Mind in patients with Anxiety Disorders (AD), addressing only patients with Social Anxiety Disorder.

Objectives: We aimed to investigate the differences in Theory of Mind between patients with AD and Healthy Controls (HC).

Methods: We enrolled 35 patients admitted in the Psychiatric Unit of Careggi with diagnosis of AD and 31 HC. We administered them: Zung Anxiety Scale (ZSAS), Empathy Quotient (EQ), Reading the Mind in the Eyes (RMET), and Faux Pas test (FP). A t-test for independent samples was performed to assess between-group differences.

Results: Zung total scores proved to be significantly higher in patients ($t(60)=4.375$, $p<0.001$), while Empathy Quotient total scores ($t(61)=-3.325$, $p=0.002$), detection of faux pas in Faux Pas test ($t(61)=-4.957$, $p<0.001$), RMET total scores ($t(63)=-2.269$, $p=0.031$) were significantly higher in healthy controls.



Conclusions: Such preliminary data suggest impairment of Theory of Mind and Empathy in patients with AD as compared to HC. This could be linked to the development and maintenance of anxiety symptoms in patients with AD, making Theory of Mind a potential target in psychotherapy of AD.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: Anxiety; Empathy; Theory of Mind; Anxiety disorders

EPP0179

Impact of central antagonist of cholecystokinin-1 receptors GB-115 on cognitive functions in patients with Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

O. Dorofeeva^{1*}, M. Metlina¹, A. Chepeliuk¹ and M. Vinogradova²

¹FSBI "Zakusov Institute Of Pharmacology", Department Of Pharmacological Genetics, Moscow, Russian Federation and ²Lomonosov Moscow State University, Department Of Neuro- And Pathopsychology, Faculty Of Psychology, Moscow, Russian Federation
*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) is associated with reduced attention, inhibition, decrease of processing speed. The impact of a new peptide antagonist of central

cholecystokinin-1 receptors (GB-115) on cognitive processes in patients with GAD is reported.

Objectives: To research the cognitive effects of GB-115 in patients with GAD.

Methods: 25 patients with GAD in ICD-10 (mean age $35,76\pm 8,55$ years) treated with GB-115 in clinically relevant dose (6 mg/d) were enrolled to the study. The evaluation of cognitive functions was conducted at background, Day 3, Day 7, Day 14 and Day 21. The laboratory test toolkit included reaction time test, Shulte-Platonov tables, attention tests (using hardware and software complex "NeuroSoft-PsychoTest"). Statistical significance was ascertained by Wilcoxon signed-rank test.

Results: Speed of reaction time increased on the Day 7 ($418,17\pm 61,49$ msec, $p\leq 0,01$), the Day 14 ($422,25\pm 70,69$ msec, $p\leq 0,01$) and the Day 21 of treatment ($406,5\pm 52,79$ msec, $p\leq 0,01$) in comparison with background ($449,19\pm 64,91$). Attention parameters improved on the Day 3 ($305,95\pm 45,31$ msec, $p\leq 0,05$) and the Day 21 of treatment ($300,14\pm 47,74$ msec, $p\leq 0,05$) in comparison with the background ($316,41\pm 42,35$ msec). Decrease of time in performance of tables of Shulte-Platonov was also observed on the Day 7 ($59,40\pm 13,71$ sec, $p\leq 0,01$), the Day 14 ($57,88\pm 12,82$ sec, $p\leq 0,01$) and the Day 21 ($53,40\pm 13,19$ sec, $p\leq 0,01$) in comparison with the background ($68,84\pm 16,78$ sec).

Conclusions: GB-115 revealed cognitive effects such as an increase of processing speed and improvement of different aspects of attention (attentional resource allocation, attention span and switching) after the Day 7 of treatment.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: anxiety disorder; cholecystokinin; anxiolytic; cognitive functions

EPP0180

Anxiety in patients with hyperthyroidism

S. Nevzorova

Kharkiv National Medical University, Department Of Psychiatry, Narcology, Medical Psychology And Social Work, Kharkiv, Ukraine
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Introduction: Mental symptoms are the first manifestations of hyperthyroidism. They include anxiety, dysphoria, irritability, emotional lability, sleep disorders, intellectual dysfunction, mania or depression. Anxiety is the main symptom and requires more detailed study.

Objectives: The objective was to determine symptomatology of anxiety in patients with hyperthyroidism and compare with euthyroid patients.

Methods: The study included 56 patients with hyperthyroidism (high free T3 and free T4, suppressed TSH) and 32 euthyroid patients (normal free T3, free T4 and TSH) of the control group. For psychiatric assessment State-Trait Anxiety Inventory [STAI], Hamilton Depression Rating Scale [HAM-D], and Hamilton Anxiety Rating Scale [HAM-A] were used.

Results: Total scores obtained from STAI, HAM-D and HAM-A were significantly greater in the hyperthyroidism group than that of the euthyroid group ($p<0.05$). The level of state anxiety in patients with hyperthyroidism was 51.39 ± 0.95 (high level) compared with 41.59 ± 2.41 (moderate level) in the control group. The level of trait anxiety in patients with hyperthyroidism was 46.86 ± 0.69 (high level), and 44.16 ± 2.17 (moderate level) in the control group.