

EW0109

Mood disorders in elderly patients hospitalized for acute exacerbation of COPD

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Introduction Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) represents the most common cause of chronic respiratory failure and it's associated with several comorbidities such as depression. Depression is about four times more frequent in elderly patients with COPD compared to peers who are not affected and its prevalence increases with the degree of disease severity.

Objective To assess mood and perception of the quality of life in elderly patients hospitalized for acute exacerbation of COPD.

Methods Thirty-five elderly patients hospitalized for reactivation of COPD were examined; they were subjected to spirometry test for the calculation of FEV1 and to COPD Assessment Test (CAT) and Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression (HAM-D) to evaluate impact of COPD on patients' quality of life and depressive symptomatology, respectively. The number of COPD exacerbations in the last year prior to hospitalization and the number of recovery days required for the stabilization of patients were also recorded.

Results There were strongly significant correlations ($P < 0.001$), positive between HAM-D scores, CAT scores, number of exacerbation in the last year and hospital length of stay and negative between HAM-D scores and FEV1 values. Furthermore, females were more depressed, with lower FEV1 ($P = 0.043$) and with a longer length of stay ($P = 0.039$) as compared to males.

Conclusions A greater severity of depressive symptoms is related to a greater severity of COPD exacerbations, disability associated with it and perceived by the patient, as well as a higher number of recovery days and annual acute exacerbations, particularly in female gender.

Disclosure of interest The authors have not supplied their declaration of competing interest.

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EW0110

Cortisol awakening response and depression in acute coronary syndrome patients

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Introduction Although the available evidence strongly supports an association between depression and coronary heart disease (CHD), the possible biological link between these two conditions still remains to be clarified. The hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis is the main endogenous system mediating the stress response and changes in cortisol secretion have been associated with depressed mood in patients with CHD. Therefore, the study of the correlation between cortisol levels and depressed mood in acute coronary syndrome (ACS) patients could help to clarify the nature of the relationship between ACS and the risk to develop a depressive syndrome.

Objective We aimed to explore the relationships between HPA axis activity and depressed mood in ACS patients.

Aims The purpose of this study was to determine whether the cortisol awakening response (CAR) is associated and/or predict depressive symptoms in patients with an ACS.

Method Patients admitted to an ACS ward were asked to fill in the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) and to collect saliva samples in the morning to measure their CAR. All the procedures were carried out within 1 week after an ACS. Patients were asked again to fill in the BDI six months after their ACS.

Results A lower CAR was associated with higher BDI scores after 6 months from an ACS.

Conclusions Our preliminary results suggest that hypoactivity of the HPA axis in the first week of an ACS may predict more severe depressive symptoms after 6 months from the ACS.

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EW0111

Rewarding network mechanism of left orbito-frontal cortex transcranial magnetic stimulation in depression

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Objective The difficulties in the clinical antidepressant treatment lead to the pursuing of more effective methods such as transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS). Mixed findings from DLPFC targeted TMS result in the exploration of optimal stimulation location. Disturbed function of orbitofrontal cortex (OFC) has been indicated in depression, which is involving in the remission of depression. However, whether it could be a more specific treating target is not tested. Simultaneously, disturbed reward network (RN) has been confirmed in depression, however, whether this could be improved by TMS treatment remains unclear.

Methods Fourteen patients with major depressive disorder (MDD) were allocated in a four-week course of OFC targeted TMS. Motivated by the literature, before and after the treatment, the function connectivity of RN with the seed of ventral striatum was conducted. The results were also compared with the data from 33 healthy controls.

Results The OFC targeted TMS improved the clinical depression significantly and enhanced the function connectivity within the RN effectively. Specifically, lower baseline dorsolateral striatum connectivity predicted strong therapeutic effect of TMS on depression, while lower baseline insula connectivity predicted weak therapeutic effect on depression.

Conclusions The findings offer the first experimental evidence of the therapeutic effect of OFC targeted TMS on clinical depression, enhanced function connectivity within RN might be the potential neural mechanism (Fig. 1). Lower dorsolateral striatum connection might be a reliable neural biomarker of strong responding for TMS treatment, which helps to identify the patients who will be cured by TMS most effectively.

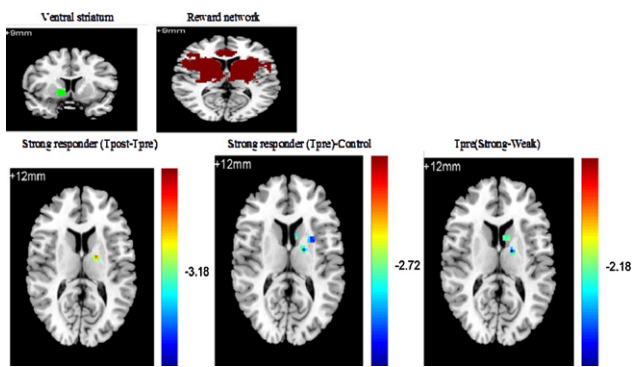


Fig. 1

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EW0112

Study on dimensional facets of personality as putative mediating factors for perinatal depression and anxiety in women who gave birth in Timis County

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Introduction Antepartum depression has garnered wide recognition from the scientific community in recent years. This has led to the replacement of the term postpartum with perinatal in the 5th edition of the DSM with regards to pregnancy associated depression. Personality may play a significant role in the susceptibility for developing perinatal depression.

Objectives The current research aimed to analyze the role of different facets of personality in mediating the occurrence of both, perinatal depression and perinatal anxiety, in women who gave birth in our region.

Methods A prospective survey was conducted at "Bega" Clinic Timisoara in 118 women being monitored during their antepartum period. Of these, 80 women attended to the second assessment between 6 to 8 weeks of their postpartum period. Postnatal depression was assessed by the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale using a cut-off > 13. Personality was assessed by using the NEO-FFI Inventory that is five-factor model based.

Results The presence of antepartum depression was identified in 28 (23.7%) of pregnant women while postpartum depression was detected in 7 new mothers (8.8%). Among the NEO-FFI Inventory factors only Neuroticism had significant higher mean scores in both antepartum and postpartum depressive women ($P=0.003$ and $P=0.016$ respectively). There were also significant correlations between Neuroticism and antepartum and postpartum levels of both trait and state anxiety.

Conclusions In the psychological management and approach of delivering women Neuroticism should be taken into account as a possible mediating factor for both depression and anxiety during their perinatal period.

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EW0113

The subjective perception of time as a factor of the course of depressive disorders

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Introduction Personal peculiarities of the individual are the separate significant factor of formation and course of depression that has a predictive value.

Objectives Investigation of an emotionally significant attitude of patients to their past, present, future and also depending on the severity of depressive symptoms.

Methodology Forty patients with depressive episodes (F 32.0, F 32.1, F 32.2) and 35 persons without mental disorders were examined. An integrated approach was applied using the method of "Semantic time differential".

Results Correlation analysis showed that in mild depression patients experienced their present condition changed, it is associated with emotional assessment of the past ($r=-0.441$) and extrapolated their experiences for the future—feeling doubt about their implementation in the future, including its activity ($r=-0.484$) and size ($r=-0.523$). In an moderate degree of depression patients in the present acutely realized that they had depression and from the point of view of this condition perceived their past and future—feeling a structureness and size of the past ($r=0.500$) and worrying about the emotional background, structureness and activity of the future ($r=-0.500$, $r=-0.756$ and $r=-0.500$, respectively). In severe depression patients did not associate their condition with the past, realized the presence of depression in the present, and did not expected to improve their emotional conditions in the future ($r=-0.432$).

Conclusions The data can be used to assess the dynamics of patient's conditions with depressive episodes as well as to develop an adequate psychotherapy.

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EW0114

Cognitive impairment in major depressive disorder and severe depressive episode with psychotic symptoms

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Introduction Cognitive impairment in patients with depressive disorder is a subject of intensive research.

Objectives This study deals with the cognitive impairment in patients with severe depressive episode with psychotic symptoms and patients with major depressive disorder during the acute state of illness.

Aims The aim was to define domains and the level of cognitive impairment in both groups of patients.