

cortisol measured in 5 time points during the TSST. Patients with FEP experience more levels of baseline cortisol, and less changes during the stress test than controls. Baseline stress levels indicated in the salivatory cortisol levels correlate with perceived self-esteem, psychological and social quality of life.

**Conclusion** Our findings support the alterations of stress response, possibly indicating vulnerability to stress in persons with FEP.

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## EW0505

### Executive function assessment in young hospitalized schizophrenic patients with the “CANTAB Schizophrenia Battery” (Russian sample)

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**Introduction** Impairment of executive function is the fundamental feature of the cognitive dysfunction in schizophrenia has to be measured throughout the illness regularly. Computerized technologies for assessment of cognitive dysfunction are widely used. However, their applicability in hospitalized schizophrenic patients setting should be specially examined.

**Objective** Executive function in schizophrenia.

**Aims** To test the applicability of “CANTAB” neurocognitive battery for measurement of executive function in young hospitalized schizophrenic patients in Russian sample.

**Methods** Fifteen inpatients diagnosed with schizophrenia according to ICD-10 (F 20.xx), 13 males and 2 females, aged 23.5(SD 3.2), disease duration is 5(SD 1.6) years and 16 healthy individuals, 7 males and 9 females, aged 21.3(SD 0.7). Spatial Working Memory (SWM) (Mnemonic Executive function), Stockings of Cambridge (OTS) (Planning Executive function), Intra/Extra-Dimensional Shift (IED) (Cognitive flexibility) were administered.

**Results** The majority of patients and controls easily understood the test instructions. Both groups did not have any difficulties with the touchpad. The “CANTAB” demonstrated sensitivity to the impairments of executive function. As a group, patients with schizophrenia performed significantly worse than controls on almost all tests: SWM–Between errors ( $P=0.028$ ), Total errors ( $P=0.019$ ), Strategy ( $P=0.03$ ), Mean time to last response ( $P=0.001$ ); OTS–Mean choices to correct ( $P=0.044$ ), Problems solved on first choice ( $P=0.009$ ), Probability of error given correct ( $P=0.021$ ); IED–Total errors ( $P=0.015$ ), Total trials ( $P=0.002$ ).

**Conclusion** The “CANTAB” is an applicable instrument for assessment of the executive function in young hospitalized schizophrenic patients. It can be used both for experimental and clinical needs.

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

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## EW0506

### Psychological traits of skin picking disorder and psychogenic itch

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**Introduction** Despite the intense discussion of psychiatric comorbidity in psychodermatology, research on psychological components of skin picking and psychogenic itch is limited, especially when it concerns patients’ representation of skin perception and their attitude towards disease.

**Objectives** To characterize psychological traits of skin picking and psychogenic itch disorder by comparing aspects of bodily experience.

**Aims** To reveal internal relations of different components of bodily experience in skin picking and psychogenic itch.

**Methods** Thirty patients with skin picking disorder (L98.1) and 18 patients with psychogenic itch (F45.8) participated in the study. The psychosemantic method “Classification of sensations” was used to assess bodily experience. It includes estimation of 80 descriptors from 6 classes of bodily sensations: skin (ex. “itch”), inner body (ex. “sickness”), receptor (ex. “sticky”), emotional (ex. “anxiety”), dynamics (ex. “exhaustion”) and attitudinal descriptors (ex. “bad”). Cluster and factor analysis were performed.

**Results** The most significant aspect of bodily experience in skin picking was its dynamics as a transition from irritation to calmness connected with the sensation of itch opposed to all other sensations (there were opposite signs of factor loadings of these variables and they were included in the factor explaining 45% of total variance). In contrast, in psychogenic itch these relations are diffuse and consist of connections between skin sensations and inner bodily sensations and descriptors of emotions reflecting functional origin of disorder.

**Conclusion** Traits of psychological components in skin picking disorder and psychogenic itch should be concerned in the complex (psychiatric, psychological and dermatological) treatment of these disorders.

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## EW0507

### Interaction of symptoms and cognitive dysfunction in remitted schizophrenic patients with and without residua – important sign of heterogeneity for design of cognitive enhancer studies

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**Introduction** It is well-known fact that cognitive dysfunction (CD) determines the quality of remission in patients with schizophrenia. However many attempts to demonstrate the link between symptoms and CD failed. The reason for this fact is unclear.

**Objectives** Heterogeneity on basis of the important sign jeopardizes the signal detection.

**Aims** Assessment of interaction between clinical symptoms and CD in schizophrenic patients in remission with and without residual psychotic symptoms (RPS).

**Methods** Adult schizophrenic patients in remission with and without RPS (DSM 295.30) on stable treatment not less than 6 months were assessed with PANSS, CGI, BACS. The indices of the testing were compared between groups. The correlation analysis was performed. The correlation was considered significant if  $R > 0.60$ .

**Results** Ten females and 34 males were divided into two groups according to presence (27 patients) or absence (17 patients) of RPS (PANSS items P1 and P3  $> 2$  but  $< 5$ ). The severity of symptoms and CD were equal in both groups, excluding P6 ( $P = 0.0005$ ), P20 ( $P = 0.007$ ), P23 ( $P = 0.0004$ ), and positive subscale PANSS ( $P = 0.00001$ ). In the group without RPS, we found that CGI score, scores of 10 items of PANSS, scores of PANSS subscales, excluding negative subscale, and total PANSS score highly negatively correlated with total BACS score (average  $R = -0.70 \pm 10$ ). In the group of patients with RPS, no correlations were found.

**Conclusions** Patients with RPS has clinical significant dissociation of psychic and cognitive functioning that should be considered in planning, and assessing of results of cognitive enhancers studies.

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#### EW0508

### The peculiarity of experiencing body by patients in schizophrenia

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**Introduction** By the present, the study of corporeality as a psychological phenomenon in schizophrenia has had a lack of attention. At the focus of works, there have been mainly psychopathological phenomena: cenestopathies, visceral hallucinations and body scheme disturbances. There is an evidence of the necessity for psychological investigations: the execution of radical changes in appearance, a frequent turning to plastic surgery, dysfunctional wearing and transsexuality.

**Objectives** The experimental group consisted of 23 patients in schizophrenia of paranoid type (F 20.00). The control group consisted of 27 healthy subjects.

**Aim** It is to study the peculiarity of experiencing their own body by patients in schizophrenia.

**Methods** There are projective techniques, such as: "A Picture of Me", "Verbal Self-Portrait", "A Picture of Inner Body" and the psychosemantic test "Classification of Sensations".

**Results** There are statistically significant differences ( $P < 0.005$ ) found between the groups:

- patients with schizophrenia are characterized for their deficit of experiencing their body. It does not refer to "Myself" and is deindividualized. The body does not serve as a physical presentation of the subject in a social world;
- a wary attitude is observed in relation to body displays in the form of inner body sensations with a minor (than in norm) awareness relatively to the inner arrangement of their own body. This causes

the increase of the quantity of intrceptive sensations categorized by patients in schizophrenia as unhealthy or a threat.

**Conclusion** The above-mentioned peculiar features of corporeality in schizophrenia make it a source of negative experiences.

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#### EW0509

### Effectiveness of paliperidone palmitate long-acting injectable in the initial stages of psychosis: Clinical and functional impact

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**Introduction** An appropriate early intervention (EI) after the onset of a first episode of psychosis (FEP) is a key factor to prevent relapse, cognitive and functional impairment related to neurotoxicity as it is a critical period in order to get good adherence to treatment. This is the most reported factor linked to relapse. Therefore, interventions focused on getting good adherence to treatment may make the difference in terms of outcome.

**Aims** To compare relapse rates, symptom severity and level of functionality before and after treatment with Paliperidone Palmitate Long-Acting Injectable (PP-LAI). To analyze prior antipsychotic treatments and side effects registered before and after the introduction of (PP-LAI).

**Material and method** This is a cross-sectional descriptive study. We analyzed a sample of 15 patients, recruited from PAFIP (an specialized EI unit) and treated with variable doses of PP-LAI. They all met diagnostic criteria for schizophrenia according to DSM-IV. Clinical and functional data of the two years before and after treatment introduction were recorded.

**Results** Twenty-seven percent of the patients resumed their work activity or studies and 33% of the patients increased their social activity. Thirteen percent of the patients improved from negative symptoms. Prior to treatment introduction, more than a half of the sample, had suffered one or two relapses. After treatment introduction, 87% did not experience more relapses while 13% experienced another relapse.

**Conclusions** Treatment with PP-LAI is associated to a recovery of functional abilities, and a trend to clinical stability with high adherence to treatment related to few side effects.

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#### EW0510

### Adjunctive memantine in clozapine-treated refractory schizophrenia: An open-label one-year extension study

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