

Method: The factors have been examined: characteristics of family functioning in a primary family and in a parents' families; methods that parents use in upbringing and commitment of parents to the function of upbringing; basic personality structure of mother including her psychopathology. The sample: 90 children from a development counselling services and 61 children with no diagnosed disorders. Instruments: questionnaire about socio-demographic characteristics, GRADIR-test (measures family functioning), NEO FFI (measures basic personality structure), DELTA-9 (measures psychoticism proneness).

Results: By factor analysis: a) two factors of characteristics of child behaviour (1. socially adapted child and 2. child with weak impulse control) b) three factors of characteristics of father (1. punishing father, 2. disinterested father, 3. traumatised father) c) three factors of characteristics of mother: (1. traumatised mother 2. mother who is not a victim 3. permissive mother) were extracted. One canonical discriminatory function has been extracted ($r=0,59$; Wilks' Lambda=0,653; $\chi^2=46,60923$; $t < 0,003$) that expresses a system consisting of a well functioning mother, aggressive, punishing father and a child with a weak impulse control (externalisation).

Conclusion: The identified differentiating structure represents the composition of children symptoms, parents' personality/behaviour and family problems that is most often detected by paediatricians as problematic and recommended for further treatment in a development counselling services.

FC02.08

The short allele of the serotonin transporter promoter polymorphism influences relapse in alcohol dependence

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Background and Aims: Allelic variation in the promoter region of the serotonin transporter (5-HTTpro) contributes for the risk of alcohol dependence (AD). The short allele (S) of this polymorphism has been associated with co-occurring clinical features in severe AD such as depression, early onset or impulsivity. We studied the putative link between this allele and relapse in AD.

Methods: 60 male alcohol dependent patients were followed for 3 months after withdrawal. Persistent abnormalities in lab tests (GGT and CDT) or failure to show up at scheduled interviews were considered as relapse. PCR amplifying the 5-HTTpro polymorphism from genomic DNA were performed. The impact of the S allele on relapse was assessed by a non-parametric Pearson χ^2 test.

Results: 67.27 % of the patients relapsed during follow-up. The S allele of the 5-HTTpro was significantly associated with relapse ($\chi^2 = 7.66$; $p < .006$) while no other factor influenced relapse.

Conclusions: Responsible for a 5-HT hypo-functioning, the S allele of the 5-HTTpro may be associated with relapse in abstinent alcohol dependent patients, possibly through intermediate phenotypes such as personality features or lack of behavioral inhibition.

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Psychiatric comorbidity of dependent tobacco smokers

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Background: Psychiatric patients are more often tobacco smokers than the general population. These finding indicate a causal relation between tobacco smoking and occurrence of psychiatric diseases. Therefore in the study presented psychiatric comorbidity of smokers and non smokers were investigated in "healthy" probands being either smokers or non smokers.

Method: Students of medicine or of psychology (mv 25,3 Jahre, SD \pm 5,3), 70 healthy smokers and 83 healthy non smokers (both groups without known psychic disorder or treatment) were studied according to psychic axis-1-disorders by Mini-DIPS, a questionnaire for the DSM IV-or ICD 10 criteria of nicotine dependence, Fagerström-test, craving visual scale, CAGE-test, a questionnaire for socio-demographic factors, organic and psychic diseases and psychiatric/psychotherapeutic treatments. Urine analysis of addictive drugs and cotinin levels in urin and saliva were estimated.

Results: From 70 smokers according to DSM IV 40 dependent and 30 non dependent smokers were found. According to Fagerström-test 51 of the 70 were dependent smokers. The urine cotinin level was significantly higher in dependent smokers and correlated with the range of dependence acc. to Fagerström ($p < 0.001$). The saliva cotinin level significantly correlated with the range of craving ($p < 0.006$). In 12 (9f, 3m) of the 40 dependent smokers phobic and anxiety disorders and high levels of cotinin were found, but not in the groups of non dependent smokers or non smokers.

Conclusion: A relationship of dependent smoking with higher cotinin and craving levels and phobic / anxiety disorders seem to exist, especially in females.

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S26.01

Somatic treatments in perinatal psychiatry

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Pharmacotherapy in pregnancy is associated with complications including teratogenic effects, perinatal syndromes, etc. In the postnatal period, there is a risk to the newborn through breast feeding. We need to treat major psychiatric disorders in pregnancy and post natal period using the risk-benefit paradigm. This is easier done if safer treatment than pharmacotherapy is available. Somatic therapy could be one such option. Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) has been practised for years in general psychiatry. Use in pregnancy has been restrictive. Use of ECT in such cases will be discussed. Newer treatments available include repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) and Vagal Nerve Stimulation (VNS). rTMS has been tested in depression using randomised controlled trials in general and old age psychiatry. Its use in pregnancy will be discussed. Though VNS is not as well researched as rTMS, its use in general psychiatry and more specifically in perinatal psychiatry will be discussed.