

who refused to participate in the study. Sociodemographic data, such as age, gender, marital and social status, level of education, employment, living situation as well as main psychiatric diagnoses, and clinical history including previous psychiatric treatments of subgroups of patients randomized to completely inpatient setting or to day-care hospitals will be described, compared and analyzed. Possible reasons of differences between individual centers will be discussed.

S37.3

Psychopathology and social disabilities of day-hospital and inpatients during acute treatment

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Objectives: During the ongoing multicenter randomized, controlled trial EDEN (European Day Hospital Evaluation), which evaluating treatment and costs of psychiatric day hospital comparing to inpatient care, the dynamics of psychopathology and social functioning of patients are assessed.

Method: The sample consists of 333 acute adult psychiatric patients hospitalized randomly in day hospital or inpatient care in five European centers: Dresden, London, Michalovce, Prague and Wrocław. They were assessed after initial periods of three days, one week and four weeks as well as at discharge using the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS) and the Groningen Social Disabilities Schedule (GSDS). Total BPRS scores and GSDS sum scores of each 8 social roles were used in the data analysis.

Results: Considering the ongoing study, preliminary results will be presented on the conference.

Conclusions: We expected to confirm the hypothesis that there were no difference in reduction of overall psychopathology between day hospital and inpatient group, but day hospital is associated with better social functioning.

S37.4

Burden on relatives comparing treatment in inpatient and day-hospital settings

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Research has shown that family members of mentally ill may be exposed to substantial burden, the impact of which is often felt across many aspects of life, such as leisure, relations with friends, and mental and physical health. With regard to this, within a multi-centre randomised controlled study comparing day-hospital treatment and inpatient treatment for acute mentally ill, the objective and subjective burden on the patients' relatives as well as their general health was assessed using the Involvement Evaluation Questionnaire (IEQ; van Wijngaarden et al., British Journal of Psychiatry, 177, suppl. 39, s21-s27) and the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-28). The period to be rated covered the last four weeks prior to admission and the first four weeks of treatment.

The authors will present multivariate analyses, controlling the outcome measures for specific covariates such as patients' clinical variables (e.g. psychopathology, social functioning) and patients' and relatives' socio-demographic characteristics. Analyses will refer to the patients and relatives recruited during the first 12 months of the ongoing study, thus presumably including about

N=500 patients and relatives. Implications of the findings will be discussed.

S37.5

Subjective evaluation criteria in the EDEN-Study

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Previous randomised controlled trials comparing acute day hospital treatment with conventional inpatient care consistently demonstrated a higher treatment satisfaction in day hospital patients. There is relatively little evidence as to whether day hospital treatment also leads to more favourable results on other subjective evaluation criteria such as indicators of quality of life and needs. The EDEN Study – a European multi centre randomised controlled trial comparing day hospital treatment and full hospitalisation – systematically investigated subjective evaluation criteria in both treatment arms.

The findings are roughly in line with previous research, but not fully consistent across all five centres. Subjective evaluation criteria tend to be more positive in day hospital treatment. Changes of those criteria over time in the day hospital to some extent differ from patterns found in conventional hospital care. The tested criteria show intercorrelations of varying degrees which challenges their conceptual framework as independent variables and their separate use in evaluative research.

S38. Ethical aspects of psychiatric genetic research

Chairs: M. Rietschel (D), J. Hauser (PL)

S38.1

Attitudes towards psychiatric genetics in the Weimar Republic

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In the history of psychiatry eugenic thoughts and psychiatric genetics formed a fatal alliance. Especially in Germany this alliance resulted in atrocities which discredited psychiatric genetics for the following years.

It has often been argued what kind of ethics doctors applied during the years prior to the Third Reich towards psychiatric genetics or whether they applied any ethics at all.

A possible source for such research is formed by book reviews on genetic textbooks in scientific or general journals.

In this presentation the attitudes of German opinion leaders towards psychiatric genetics are investigated for the period of the Weimar Republic with the use of 324 systematically screened book reviews on the contemporary standard textbook on "Human Heredity and Racial Hygiene" by Erwin Baur, Eugen Fischer and Fritz Lenz.

The attitudes expressed in the reviews cannot be considered as bearing no ethics at all, but the ethics applied here were antiindividualistic and bore dangers to humanity.

The general acceptance of eugenic utopias amongst the medical profession during the Weimar Republic prepared the sterilisation law and the killing of thousands of psychiatric patients.

S38.2

Attitudes towards genetic research in psychiatry

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Objective: It is expected that susceptibility mutations for mental disorders will be discovered in near future. This could generate controversies about how this findings may be used. It is possible to imagine stigmatization of individuals based on genotypes. The purpose of this study is to learn about knowledge and attitudes toward genetic research.

Method: In a group of patients (n=100), psychiatrists (n=100) and students (n=100) we are assessing the attitudes, fears and knowledge regarding psychiatric genetics.

Results: Preliminary results indicate the great interest but also fears to genetic research in psychiatry. The most recent results will be presented at the meeting.

- (1) Elliot S.Gershon: Bipolar illness and schizophrenia as oligogenic diseases: implications for future. *Biol. Psychiatry*, 200,47,240–244.

S38.3

The attitudes of Turkish psychiatrists towards the genetics of mental illnesses

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Background: Prejudges about mental illnesses could negatively influence its prognosis by decreasing accessibility to treatment resources. However, early recognition and treatment intervention may improve the outcome and minimise the disabilities.

The results of recent researches on the genetics contributed to the comprehension of pathogenesis and aetiology of mental disorders. The identification of susceptibility genes for mental illnesses may cause a more biological concept of the disease, which may lead to either a decrease or an increase of stigmatisation of patients. The progresses in the genetic of mental disorders spontaneously reveal also some ethical questions that clinician will have to resolve in the future. Opinions of clinicians will be very important to guide future genetic researches and their clinical applications. In Turkey, there exist approximately 1200 psychiatrists in total who practice in 120 institutions and private offices. The number of psychiatrist per 100000 is found less than 1 based on the data of WHO. We are conducting a nation-wide representative survey to assess the attitudes and expectations and fears of Turkish psychiatrists towards psychiatric genetics research and its clinical applications e.g. predictive genetic testing.

Method: We requested to psychiatrists to fill the Turkish version of Gen-Ethics Questionnaire. The questionnaire has been recently developed in Rheinische Friedrich- Wilhelms- Bonn University, Department of Psychiatry. It consists of 10 different parts: social-demographic information of the psychiatrist, his contact with people suffering from mental illnesses, his knowledge about chronic mental illnesses, his opinions on genetic investigation and on when to carry out genetic examinations, on access to genetic information, his acceptance of mentally ill people in the community, his opinions on abortions and moral values.

Results: Our survey is ongoing and most recent results about the opinions and attitudes of psychiatrists towards genetics of mental illnesses and the future researches will be presented.

S38.4

Informed consent, confidentiality and ethical votes – experience from a multinational psychiatric genetic study

S. Brewster. *UK*

No abstract was available at the time of printing.

S38.5

The legal protection of biotechnological inventions

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The European Directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions (98/44/EC) was issued in order to remove legal uncertainty resulting from different national patent laws and to maintain the internal market's principles. The deadline for implementation was June 2000, but not all of the EU-Member States supported the transposition in national laws. Though the European directive clarifies the applying of fundamental principles about patenting of biotechnological inventions, several Member States expressed an extremely critical view of it. They called for its renegotiation without delay at European level, because the Directive would allow "patents on life". Patent laws, however, are the appropriate instrument to implement bioethical demands: An exclusive right encourages research into biotechnological processes which are needed to combat diseases. It forces public information and allows it to be used in further research. Moreover a patent does not confer any right of ownership on the object being patented and does not authorize its holder to implement the invention in an abusive manner. Accordingly the Directive avoids patentability of inventions whose industrial applications are contrary to "ordre public or morality".

S39. Dimensional approaches to schizotypy and psychosis

Chairs: C.N. Stefanis (GR), L. Fañanás (E)

S39.1

Dimensional versus categorical models of psychosis: is there any definitive evidence?

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A controversy that has plagued psychosis for some time is whether 'psychosis' constructs are better represented by dimensional or categorical models. There is a growing consensus that continuum models of psychosis have superior clinical advantages and validity than categorical models but no definitive evidence has been reported.

Several methods to account for by this nosological problem have been proposed, such as factor analysis and cluster techniques. These techniques have shown great limitations and two other