

The postpartum depression occurs between the 2nd and 6th week after birth. It is characterized by ambivalent emotions concerning the baby, excessive demands, feelings of guilt, fears of failure, panic attacks and sometimes culminates in suicide or infanticide. Previous studies show prevalence between 5 and 15%. In Germany only few data exist concerning epidemiology, aetiology and risk factors. Previous psychological diseases, especially depression, missing social support and bad partner support are important components. There is nothing common about the neural correlates of postpartum depression so far. Patients, midwives and gynaecologists rarely have information about experts and possibilities of treatment. Because the postpartum depression has devastating consequences for the mother and for the development of the child, a close cooperation between gynaecological, midwives and psychosomatic disciplines is essential and a directed psychotherapeutic consultation absolutely necessary.

Therefore we accomplish an interdisciplinary project with a multimodal approach. Besides a 'postpartum-depression-hotline', which is well-staffed by experts 24 hours, a new homepage concerning postpartum depression is available (www.wochenbettdepression-hotline.de). Therapeutic support for mothers and fathers occurs immediately by our team and a mother-child-unit is available. Turkish patients are included to assess intercultural influences. Clinical interviews and psychometric instruments are used to analyze personality, attachment, body perception etc. For the first time neural networks of postpartum depression are examined by fMRI. A picture-paradigm is used.

By our interdisciplinary approach we already established a broad supportive network in only few months.

Our psychometric and fMRI results contribute to further knowledge of aetiology and risk factors of postnatal depression.

P0232

Mental health and symptomatology during pregnancy and postnatal period among Icelandic women

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Introduction: Many studies of postpartum depression have been carried out. Fewer studies have focused on depression and anxiety during pregnancy and anxiety after childbirth. The main objective of this study was to investigate symptoms of anxiety and depression among pregnant women in Iceland during the pre and postnatal period.

Methods: 560 pregnant women attending antenatal clinics at Primary Health Care Centres participated. These women were participants in a larger study on mental health during pregnancy and after birth in which use of psychoactive substances and psychosocial factors among pregnant women in Iceland are also studied and variables located that may predict postpartum depression. The purpose is also to investigate its relationship with the child's development at age five months and one, two and five years. Participants were screened three times during pregnancy and once after birth with the Depression Anxiety Stress Scales (DASS) and the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS).

Results: Results showed that anxiety is even a bigger problem during pregnancy than depression, but after childbirth more women suffer from depression than anxiety.

Discussion: The findings indicate the need to focus not exclusively on depression when studying the mental health of pregnant women but to include also other mental disorder such as anxiety.

P0233

Depression in Iranian asthmatic patient

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Asthma is chronic disease, that make many health problems in every where in the world. The quality of life is variable in asthmatic patients because has a long of treatment. The aim of this study is assessment of quality of life, especially depression in this patients.

Material and Methods: This study is descriptive-analytic research. The subject consisted of 386 patients who refers to medical clinic. The data gathered by questionnaire that had 2 part. First part was demographic data and second had gathered quality of life, sleep disorders and mental status. For determind validity use content validity and for determind reliability use alfa-kronbach.

Results: The results showed that the majority of subjects was female, married, unlettered, and in 41-50 age range. Also the most of them from physical and mental and sleep aspects of quality of life were in appropriate and in social economic aspects were rarely appropriate.

Conclusion: According to the finding, depression and sleep disorders in these patients are very common.

P0234

Tricyclic antidepressants and Benzodiazepines abuse, among former heroin addicts currently in Methadone maintenance treatment (MMT)

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Background and Aims: The tricyclic antidepressant amitriptyline was suspected to be abused among methadone maintenance treatment (MMT) patients in Israel. Given its potentially dangerous interaction with methadone, and even more so with benzodiazepines (BDZ), which is highly abused among MMT patients, we did a cross sectional studied all 303 patients (February, 2007).

Methods: Evidence of tricyclics presence in one of the 2±0.5 random urine samples (range 1-4) that are routinely taken for opiates, cocaine BDZ, amphetamines, and cannabis. Modified addiction severity index (ASI) and variables from patients' records.

Results: 48(15.8%) were positive for amitriptyline. They were similar to the others in age, gender, presence of DSM-IV psychiatric disorders, and QTc interval on ECG. Logistic regression (multivariate analyses) found that the extent of being amitriptyline positive was higher in BDZ abusers (OR=11.6 95%CI 4.4-30.7), in subjects with positive antibody to hepatitis C (OR=2.2, 95%CI 1.02-4.9) and in patients treated with high dose methadone (>150 mg/day) (OR=2.4, 95%CI 1.2-4.9). Amitriptyline was found in 12 (7.5%) of the "privileged" group members who, by definition, should not be abusing drugs.

Conclusion: The high prevalence of amitriptyline abuse, even among "privileged" patients, and in combination with BDZ abuse, emphasizes the importance of routine monitoring in order to decrease the potential risk associated with amitriptyline combined with methadone and BDZ, and to implement appropriate interventions.

P0235

The outcome of depression and cancer diseases

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Objective: The purpose of this study is to diagnose MDD and to determine its influence to the prognostic and outcome of cancer diseases.

Material and Methods: The study comprises 30 patients diagnosed with cancer. These patients were admitted in the Hematological Clinic of Arad during May 2006–October 2006 and were evaluated physically, psychiatric and psychological. The psychological evaluation was made with Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression (HAMD) and Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (GAFscore) at admission and after 3 weeks of antidepressant treatment.

The patients were divided into two groups:

- Group A—15 patients diagnosed with MDD, that were undergoing mirtazapine;
- Group B—15 patients that were not treated with antidepressants.

Results: The majority of the patients (n=16) were diagnosed with moderate depressive episode and only 4 patients weren't diagnose with depression. Fatigue was present to all patients included into the study while weight loss and loss of appetite were present to 16 and 12 patients. The evolution of average of HAMD scores was better in group A than in group B (5 vs.1,73). GAF score of 90-81, 80-71, 70-61 point was recorded in a higher percentage in the patients of group A.

Conclusions: Patients with cancer have a high rate of MDD.

MDD is a negative prognostic factor for cancer diseases. It influences and modifies the prognostic of disease.

P0236

A psychodynamic description of a sample of gamblers through Rorschach assessment and correlation with Alexithymia dimension

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Since November 2005 our Institute has been developing a group therapy program for pathological gamblers, alternating a counselling/rehabilitation and a group psychotherapy session each week. For a better understanding of psychodynamic aspects of our patients we have started to assess them through Rorschach test according to Klopfer signing and with TAS-20 (Toronto Alexithymia Scale, Taylor et al., 1990). Preliminary results regarding ten patients have shown the following features: a discrepancy between high ambition and real intellectual skills; a psychic life condition dominated by immature resources and impulses; an inappropriate self-control which is performed through emotional distance and experiences of deep anguish. These features can be indicative of a difficulty in expression of emotions, according to alexithymia construct. Most of the patients were found to have significantly higher levels of alexithymia at Tas-20. This outcome is in accordance with previous works on the topic.

Our preliminary observations suggest to focus group therapy not only on communication contents, but also on the communication style of the patient. These results also suggest that could be important to

help patient to recognize and discriminate emotional conditions to prevent relapses due to out of control or repressed emotions.

[1]. Parker J.D., Wood L.M., Bond B.J., Shaughnessy P. (2005) Alexithymia in young adulthood: a risk factor for pathological gambling. *Psychother. Psychosom.* 74(1): 51-5.

P0237

Depression, dissociation and painful physical symptoms

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Background and Aims: Recent findings in cognitive neuroscience indicate that activation of anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) is related to detecting cognitive conflict, dissociation and pain. Conflict related and pain experience induced ACC activation elicits responses in central autonomic network which can be assessed by psychophysiological measures such as heart rate variability (i.e. beat to beat R-R intervals- RRI). Recent findings in neuroscience also suggest that cognitive conflict is related to specific nonlinear chaotic changes of the signal generated by the neural systems.

Method: The present study used Stroop word-colour test as an experimental approach to the study of cognitive conflict in connection with RRI measurement, psychometric measurement of dissociation (DES), somatoform dissociation (SDQ-20), and calculation of largest Lyapunov exponents in nonlinear data analysis of RRI time series in 45 patients with unipolar depression (i.e. depressive period or recurrent depression).

Result: Significant correlation 0.57 ($p < 0.01$) between largest Lyapunov exponents and DES, and 0.45 ($p < 0.01$) between largest Lyapunov exponents and SDQ-20 found in this study indicate that cognitive conflict related defect of neural inhibition during conflicting Stroop task is closely related to dissociative processes and depression.

Conclusion: These findings suggest the hypothesis that specific nonlinear dynamics governs the brain processes that link psychological pain related to dissociation and somatoform dissociation related to painful physical symptoms as a consequence of ACC activation.

P0238

Differential effects of Venlafaxine compared to selective Serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) in the treatment of MDD according to baseline severity

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Objectives: Prior meta-analyses have suggested superior efficacy of venlafaxine compared to SSRIs. In this meta-analysis we compared the efficacy of venlafaxine and SSRIs in patients with MDD classified according to baseline severity

Methods: Data from 31 venlafaxine studies were pooled and remission rates defined as < 8 on the HAM-D17- score were analyzed. Subjects were divided into two groups based on their baseline HAM-D-17 total score ≥ 30 / < 30 . Fisher's exact test was used to compare the treatment effects on the remission rates for each subgroup. All of the analyses were based on intent-to-treat patients, LOCF and completer analysis were performed using standardized measurements.

Results: 5836 patients with a baseline HAM-D17 < 30 could be identified. The LOCF analysis revealed, that the OR is 1.31 (95%CI 1.18, 1.46), $p < 0.001$ and the NNT is 16, whereas the completer analysis revealed, that the OR is 1.25 (95%CI 1.09, 1.43),