FC63 *Neurosciences, psychopharmacology and biological psychiatry*

Symposium : CLINICAL PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH IN FRANCE : WITH FFP ("Fédération Française de Psychiatrie"), A NEW SITUATION

3. Psydoc-fr, the French psychiatry on the Internet.
Dr. M. Grohens, Mrs M. Thurin, Dr M. Botbol

Displaying the different services of Psydoc.fr

- "Pour la recherche" , electronic edition
- National Scholarly Societies and their activities
- Reviews and their contents ; current bibliographic database.
- Status of the ongoing researches
- Communications of the Research Days and FFP symposia
- Biomedical and Psychiatric Internet addresses
- Information, Events and Seminars
- Forum.

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4. Research, publications, vocabulary, documentation.
Dr C. Veil

Taking the following into consideration : Abundance and variety of the French scientific publications, of the pool of hospital and university libraries, and also the cutting-off of sites and documentation networks,
the FFP promulgated a working group associating researchers and documentalists in order to check off the resources, to identify all sorts of obstacles (institutional inflexibility, anomy of vocabularies, etc.) and to improve inter-group communication.

Presenting the ongoing actions and evaluating the present stage...

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5. Ethics : from research to practice
Dr J. Garrabé

The significants attached to the observance of medical ethics is one of the most striking effects of research on psychiatric practice. In the following text, we entend to formulate a statement of the present french situation in this field, citing a few examples provided by the activities of the French Federation of Psychiatry. At the time when European texts regarding Bio-ethics are under discussion, this should afford an opportunitiy to compare the french situation to that pertaining in other countries

A symposium "Ethics and psyche" which took place at UNESCO on october the tenth allowed us to take stock of the international situation. Positions taken on ethical questions by the World Psychiatric Association should allow the psychiatrists to protect their identity from any danger that might stem from the findings of recent research.

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BRAIN α_{2A}-ADRENOCEPTORS AND ASSOCIATED REGULATORY PROTEINS IN SUICIDE

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The regulation of α_{2A}-adrenoceptors (α_{2A}R) and regulatory GTP-binding ($G\alpha i_2$) proteins and G protein-coupled receptor kinase (GRK2 or βARK) was assessed in brains of suicides Frontal cortices were collected from 26 suicides (14 M and 12 F; age, 48±3 years; PMD, 30±4 h) and 15 controls (7 M and 8 F; age, 48±5 years; PMD, 31±4 h) Levels of α_{2A}R, $G\alpha i_{1/2}$ and GRK2 proteins were assessed by immunoblotting using specific antisera. In brain of suicides, the immunoreactive levels of α_{2A}R were increased compared with matched controls (133±4%, n= 26, t= 8.02, p< 0.01). The levels of $G\alpha i_{1/2}$ (143±8%, n= 21, t= 5.64, p< 0.01) and GRK2 (121±4%, n= 24, t= 4.82, p< 0.01) proteins also were increased in the same brain samples. Levels of α_{2A}R correlated weakly with those of $G\alpha i_{1/2}$ (r= 0.35, n= 21, p= 0 12), but showed a clear correlation with those of GRK2 (r= 0 55, n= 24, p= 0 005) The results indicate that in brains of suicides 1) the abundance of α_{2A}R is increased (33%), 2) the density of $G\alpha i_2$ proteins is also up-regulated (43%) suggesting an increase in signal transduction through α_{2A}R, and 3) the abundance of GRK2 is also increased (21%) probably because of the higher functioning of the α_{2A}R/$G\alpha i_2$ complex.

Supported by FNRS grant 3100-043258.95, Switzerland (JG) and by DGICYT grant PB94-0002-Mod C, Spain (JAGS)