

P-50 - TEMPERAMENT AND CHARACTER PROFILE OF ALCOHOL DEPENDENT PATIENTS WITH DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS

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Introduction: Depressive symptoms frequently co-occur in alcohol dependence. However, little is known about the relationship between depressive symptoms and personality functioning in alcohol dependence.

Aims: The aim of this study was to reveal the role of depressive symptoms in the adaptivity of personality functioning. Therefore, alcohol-dependent patients with and without depressive symptoms, depressed patients and normal controls were compared along the personality factors of the biosocial model.

Methods: Depressed patients (N=57), alcohol-dependent individuals with (N=41) and without (N=41) depressive symptoms, and normal controls (N=55) were involved. The Beck Depression Inventory was administered to determine the severity of depressive symptoms. Subjects were tested using Cloninger's Temperament and Character Inventory-Revised, which measures 4 temperament: novelty-seeking (NS); harm avoidance (HA); reward dependence (RD); persistence (P) and 3 character dimensions: self-directedness (SD); cooperativeness (C); self-transcendence (ST).

Results: Alcohol-dependent groups showed higher level of NS than depressed and control subjects ($F=6.33$, $p < 0.001$). Alcohol addicted patients with depressive symptoms and depressed individuals scored lower level of HA than the other groups ($F=21.41$, $p < 0.001$). In the case of P the lowest score was observed among alcohol-dependent individuals with depressive symptoms ($F=3.63$, $p=0.014$). On the SD ($F=25.25$, $p < 0.001$) and C ($F=3.61$, $p=0.014$) all 3 patient groups showed significantly lower scores than normal controls.

Conclusion: Based on the severity of depressive symptoms, alcohol addicted persons show different personality profile. Our results suggest that depressive symptoms are related to maladaptive personality functioning in alcohol dependence; therefore it has to be considered during the treatment process.

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