P-15 - SEPARATION ANXIETY IN GAMBLING AND ALCOHOLISM (SAGA): STUDY DESIGN AND PRELIMINARY DATAS

A.Bruschi[1], A.De Angelis[1], M.Pascucci[1], D.Tedeschi[1], P.Grandinetti[1], M.Grassi[2], E.Salvador[1], S.Solaroli[1], S.Pini[3], L.Janiri[1], G.Pozzi[1]

[1]Department of Neuroscience, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, [2]Department of Clinical Neuroscience, San Benedetto Hospital, Hermanas Hospitalarias, Albese con Cassano, [3]Department of Psychiatry, Neurobiology, Pharmacology and Biotechnologies, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

Introduction: The aim of this pilot study is to assess, in a sample of patients with chemical (alcohol) and behavioural (gambling) dependence, the specifical association between core symptoms and Separation Anxiety Disorder, both in Childhood and in Adulthood.

Materials and methods: After a stabilization period of three months, outpatients with alcohol dependence (n=30), patological gambling (n=30) and a control group of anxiety disorders (n=30) will be assessed with the following psychometric battery:

· SCI-SAS (Structured Clinical Interview for Separation Anxiety) Child and Adult
· SASI (Separation Anxiety Symptom Inventory)
· ASA-27 (Adult Separation Anxiety Questionnaire)
· TCI-R (Temperament anc Character Inventory Revised)
· GAF (Global Assess of Functioning)
· SCL-90-R (Symptom Checklist Revised)
· SOGS (South Oaks Gambling Scale)
· ADS (Alcohol Dependence Scale)
· HAM-A (Hamilton Anxiety Rating Scale)

Results: A preliminary analisys of collected datas (n=33) shows a strong inter-reliability of the Separation Anxiety Scales (SCI-SAS, SASI and ASA-27) with a p=0.001 and an association between levels of functioning (GAF) and ASA-27 and SASI scores (p=0.010 and p=0,001).

It shows a statistical correlation between ASA-27 and TCI-R: inverse proportion with Self Directness (SD) (p=0.004) and direct relation with Self Trascendency (ST) (p=0.003).

Conclusions: Even if the sample is still limited we found an interesting trend between Separation Anxiety symptoms, TCI-R dimensions and core symptoms of dependance. We should focus better, when the study will be over, on narrow and specific sub-analisys that should lead us to a better understanding of the disorders.