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Quetiapine improves depressive and anxiety symptom but not impulsivity in cluster b personality disorder: An open label prospective trial

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Objective: Atypical antipsychotics are a new treatment option for patients with impaired impulse regulation as seen in Cluster B personality disorders. Preliminary data are available on the use of atypical antipsychotics especially in the treatment of impulsivity in borderline personality disorder. The aim of the present study is to investigate efficacy regarding impaired impulse regulation, different psychopathological symptoms and tolerability of quetiapine in a group of patients with Cluster B personality disorder.

Methods: Fifteen consecutive patients with a DSM-IV diagnosis of borderline, histrionic, or narcissistic personality disorder were treated for 8 weeks with open-label quetiapine at the dose of 400 mg/day. Patients were assessed at baseline, week 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and week 8. The clinical efficacy and side effects were assessed using the following scales: Hamilton Scales for Depression (HAM-D) and Anxiety (HAM-D-A), Beck-Depression Inventory (BDI), Barratt Impulsivity Scale version 10 (BIS-10), Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS), and the Dosage Record and Treatment Emergent Symptom Scale (DOTES).

Results: Twelve patients completed the study. Three patients (20%) dropped out due to noncompliance. A significant improvement was found for the scores of the following scales: BPRS (anxiety/depression subscale), HAM-D, and BDI. No significant result was found for impaired impulse regulation. Common adverse effects, possibly due to study medication, were mild-to-moderate somnolence, mouth dryness, agitation, nausea, and dizziness.

Conclusion: An 8 week open label treatment with 400mg quetiapine daily seems to improve depressive and anxiety, but not impulsivity symptoms in cluster-B personality disorders.

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The influence of aesthetic surgery on the emotional profile

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Background and aims: In the clinical practise it has been observed that the person changes physically, too, after aesthetic surgery. The aim of this work was to examine, by objective psychological measurements, what changes occur, and what personality features change.

Methods: Forty six subjects that had an aesthetic surgery were examined; they were tested before, and eighteen month after the surgery by the Profile Index of Emotion (PIE). Before the re-testing the subjects were analyzed by "The Life Events Scale" to exclude the possibility of the influence of new life events on the results of the re-test. The control group of volunteers was tested by the same psychological instruments. The control group never verbalized the wish for an aesthetic surgery; they were never in psychiatric treatment, and the corresponded to the experimental group in the age, sex and education level.

Results: Analysis of the data obtained from PIE test before and after the operation shows a statistical significant increase of the

adaptability segments and an improvement of capacity for giving and taking.

Conclusion: Emotional conflict does not disappear, but a new balance is established, satisfaction is higher, and the identity is more integrated.

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Gender differences, impulsivity and attention measures in BPD patients

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Background and aims: Despite the intense study on impulsivity in BPD, little attention has been given to the relationship between gender, impulsivity and BPD. Previous findings are inconsistent and there is a lack of specific research.

The purpose of this study is to examine the differences between man and women with BDP in different impulsivity measures.

Method: We examined the gender differences in 45 subjects recruited in a psychiatric unit, in which 33 (73,3%) were women and 12 (26,7%) were men. Mean age of the study sample was 28.9 years old (SD= 1.04). No differences were found in socio-demographic variables between men and women. In order to establish a BDP diagnose the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis II Personality Disorder (SCID-II) was used. Impulsivity was assessed with the Barrat Impulsivity Scale (BIS-11) and the Continuous Performance Test identical pairs version (CPT-IP).

Results: We found significant gender differences in BIS scores. Men have scored higher than women in all BIS scores, especially in the second-order factor of nonplanning impulsiveness.

In CPT-IP results there were also significant differences between men and women performance. Men made a higher number of correct answers (hits) and a higher number of false alarms (commission errors) than women. Also, men had a significant higher score in the d index (attentional capacity) than women.

Conclusion: Gender differences influence the performance in laboratory and psychometric measures of impulsivity in BPD subjects. This pattern of impulsivity is consistent with the attentional performance in these subjects.

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Mental illness: An automatic, learned and stylized stimulus- response

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Background: Author of the Scientific Theory "Something, that, my, self: Origin of other Life" and THERAPY OF TRANSFER (©USA) exposed: XXIV APAL Congress. IV World Congress on Traumatic Stress. 19th World Congress of Psychotherapy. 9th World Congress of Psychosocial Rehabilitation. XIII World Congress of Psychiatry. WPA International Congress (Istanbul2006).

Objective: Demonstrate that 'Mental Illness' is a phenomenon initiated at home, reinforced in society and stylized internally.

Method: Planned introspection, and meticulous evolutionary record of all those internal conflicts unleashed after tireless search of the I, during 30 years.