

HPA-axis. Studies on HPA-axis functioning in burnout have produced inconsistent results. BDNF is one of the trophic factors involved in the regulation of adult hippocampal neurogenesis and is believed to decrease as a consequence of chronic stress mediated by hyperactivation of the HPA-axis. The aetiological relationship between the serum level of BDNF and burnout has not yet been studied.

Methods: 37 clinically diagnosed burnout participants were compared with 35 healthy controls. Basal serum cortisol, sBDNF, and cortisol level after 1mg dexamethasone suppression test were sampled.

Results: We found no significant differences in terms of HPA-axis functioning, but we did find significantly lower levels of sBDNF compared between burnout participants and controls ($p=0.005$). sBDNF levels correlated significantly with scores of three dimensions of Maslach Burnout Inventory. HPA-axis function and sBDNF were not affected by the presence of a current psychiatric disorder. Depression, depersonalization and competence scores were found to be the most important predicting variables of burnout.

Conclusions: Our results suggest that there was no dysregulation in the HPA-axis of burnout participants. However, BDNF and hippocampal neurogenesis seem to be important in the aetiology of burnout. Though BDNF is a novel way to investigate the possible aetiology of burnout, further research concerning the role of BDNF in the neurobiology of burnout is needed.

P0004

Sexual dysfunction in veterans with PTSD

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In spite of results of previous studies which shows significantly higher rate of sexual dysfunction in veterans with PTSD in all domains (desire, arousal, orgasm, activity and satisfaction) these problems were not enough examined. Erectile disorder and premature ejaculation were most frequently reported problems.

Aim of the study were to examine full range of sexual functioning (sexual activity, erectile disorder, sexual desire, orgasmic disorder, dyspareunia and premature ejaculation) in veterans with PTSD. In that purpose two groups were formed: experimental group of veterans with PTSD ($N=70$) and control group of healthy examinees ($N=60$).

Results show reduced satisfaction and reduced frequency of sexual activity, hypoactive sexual desire and erectile disorder in veterans with PTSD. Our results confirm results of previous studies about sexual dysfunction in veterans with PTSD.

Mentioned sexual dysfunction could be explained as results of posttraumatic stress disorder as well as comorbid diagnosis, and interpersonal relationship disturbances, problems with closeness, intimacy and partners relationship disturbance.

Results of this study show that both erectile disorder and hypoactive sexual desire disorder in veterans with PTSD, cause loss of self-confidence, reduced frequency of sexual activities as well as dissatisfaction with sexual aspects of life.

P0005

School maladjustment at initial pupils from victim families

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Objects: Mental conditions of deprivation genesis in this cohort of deprived children play an essential role in formation of their social-psychological maladjustment.

Methods and Material: The design of the present research included studying of 116 children of the migrants families. The economic difficulty, uncertainty of the future life provoked development of a stable interfamily relations. Children got in a situation of unexpected deprivation of habitual conditions, that had a negative effect on dynamics and quality of their adaptation. With the help of the statistical methods, allowing to specify character, depth and weight of depriving conditions, results of polydisciplinary research have been processed.

Results: Deprived conditions were characterized by a continuum of displays and have been submitted: 1) deprived reactions, as short-term mental conditions; 2) actually deprived conditions, and 3) deprived developments, as long-term mental conditions or processes. Types of school maladjustment, reflecting both level of mental development and formed personal features which were under influence of depriving conditions looked as follows: 1) with the prevalence of behaviour disorders (at 42,3% of children); 2) with mainly emotional disorders (at 46,4% of children); 3) with difficulties in intellectual functioning (at 11,3% of children).

Conclusion: The continuum of maladjustment displays settled down between a prepathology and dysfunctional condition. Attempt to systematize a level of social functioning disorders assumed an estimation of their quantitative characteristics which identification with deprived conditions changes has allowed to allocate the easy, moderate and severe degree of maladjustment.

P0006

Impact of intensity of traumatic experience on level of perceived competency and Self-Esteem of survivors

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Introduction: Expectations of individual regarding self-esteem and personal competency are mediators of behavior. Traumatic experience can effect and modify both self-esteem and perceived competency and in that way determine individual behavior.

Aim: of this study is to assess impact of intensity of traumatic experience on level of self-esteem and perceived competency of individual.

Methods: In this research two groups of participants were included. Group G1 consisted from 21 individuals, clients of Center for victims of torture, who survived different highly stressful traumatic experiences including torture. Group G2 consisted from 21 individuals who survived different traumatic experiences without being tortured. For this research 4 psychological instruments were used: Socio-demographic questionnaire, List of stressful life events, Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale and Rosenberg Perceived Competency scale. In this research T-test method of statistical analysis was used.

Results: According to List of stressful life events participants from group G1 were highly traumatized comparing with group G2 who showed lower level of traumatization ($p<0,01$). On perceived competency scale and self-esteem scale group G1 (highly traumatized) showed lower scores comparing with group G2 (less traumatized). ($p<0,01$).

Conclusion: Higher level of exposure and higher intensity of traumatic experiences is leading to decreased perception of self competency and lower self-esteem within survivors.

P0007

Genetic variation in stress response: The role of the arginine vasopressin 1b receptor and the glucocorticoid receptor genes

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Background: Appropriate responsiveness to everyday-life stressors is crucial for adequate functioning in a natural environment. Conversely, depending on individual's genetic makeup, prolonged stress, coupled with inappropriate responsiveness may lead to physiological and psychiatric disorders. Various psychiatric conditions have been associated with stress and alterations in hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) activity. Yet while stress is a general phenomenon, illness is only seen in a proportion of individuals, suggesting genetic modifiers of ability to cope with stress. In children, relatively little research has been conducted to estimate the impact of genetic factors on the variability in HPA axis functioning.

Methods: In the present explorative investigation, 106 prepubertal children were studied to estimate the impact of four glucocorticoid receptor gene (NR3C1) polymorphisms (NR3C1-1, ER22/23EK, N363S, N766N) and five arginine vasopressin (AVP) receptor 1b gene (AVPR1b) polymorphisms (AVPR1b_s1, AVPR1b_s2, AVPR1b_s3, AVPR1b_s4, AVPR1b_s5) on cortisol responses after a psychosocial stress test (public speaking task).

Results: ER22/23EK carriers displayed significant lower cortisol responses to psychosocial stress compared to noncarriers. This particular polymorphism has earlier been associated to the vulnerability to develop MDD by our own research group (1) and independently by another publication (2).

Conclusion: These findings support the relevance of the ER22/23EK polymorphism in HPA axis regulation and in the vulnerability for psychiatric disorders.

1. van West D et al, *Neuropsychopharmacology* 31: 620-627, 2006.
2. Van Rossum EFC et al., *Biol Psychiatry* 59: 681-688, 2006.

P0008

Promoting mental health - Evidence of the Salutogenic Framework for a positive health development

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Social trends point to a major upset of the traditional social structures such as the rupture of local and intimate networks because of migration into urban areas, changed function and structure of family networks and changes in the patterns of working life. At the same time there are concerns regarding a decreasing mental health. All this makes it difficult to find and run a coherent life. However, there are theories and frameworks contributing to stress research. One of them is the salutogenic theory developed by Aaron Antonovsky, a positive concept exploring the origin of health (salutogenesis) not disease (pathogenesis). Stress has generally been seen as a negative event that increased the risk of people "breaking down". In contrast, Antonovsky stated that chaos and stress are part of life and natural conditions. The fundamental concepts of Salutogenesis are Generalized

Resistance Resources (GRRs) and Sense of Coherence (SOC). GRRs help the person to construct coherent life experiences. Even more important than the resources themselves is the ability to use them, the sense of coherence (SOC). The presentation reports findings from an ongoing extensive worldwide systematic review of the salutogenic research, based on about 500 scientific articles. The findings show the SOC to be strongly related to perceived good health, especially mental health. SOC seems to have a main, moderating or mediating role in explaining health. SOC is able to reduce stress. SOC predicts good health and QoL. The salutogenic framework could guide public health, particularly mental health promotion, in a new direction.

P0009

Prevalence of risk for mental disorders among paramedical students at the Fatemeh nursing college. Shiraz-Iran

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Background: Physical and mental health has been found to be affected by occupational factors that cause psychological strain. The aim of this cross-sectional study was to investigate the Prevalence of risk for mental disorders among paramedical students at the Fatemeh nursing & Midwifery college in Iran.

Methods: The studied population included 184 paramedical students from First year and fourth year of education. Self-administered questionnaires were used to solicit demographic information and Psychological ill health was measured using a standard instrument—the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ 28). In this study a cut-off point of 23 was used for prevalence estimations. By this scoring, if the total score was 23 or less (from 84) then the person was regarded healthy. The higher the GHQ-28 scores indicated the subject might suffer from a psychiatric distress.

Results: The majority of the respondents (68.5%) were between the ages of 20-24 years and 80.8 % were female. 47.3 percent of paramedical students had GHQ scores of 24 and above, indicating an increased likelihood of psychological disorder. The average score was 25.93 +/-14.93. Depression has the lowest mean score (3.92 +/-7.2), while social dysfunction has the highest mean score (8.12 +/-3.97) among the subscales. GHQ scores between the dissatisfied and satisfied groups were statistically significant (P = 0.001).

Conclusions: This study suggests that paramedical students have high levels of stress, so counseling and other support services should be made available to them.

P0010

Prevalence of risk for mental disorders among paramedical students at the fatemeh nursing and midwifery college. Shiraz-Iran

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