

Conclusions This work underscores the caregiver's role as a facilitator of child integration and response to sensory stimuli and its importance on the development of behavioral and emotional disorders. This can help early diagnosis and better treatment who prevent future psychiatric conditions.

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EW0052

Pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS), developmental regression and autism

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Introduction Pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) is a term used to describe a clinical picture which includes sudden onset of psychiatric symptoms and a possible autoimmune genesis. The sudden decline in neuropsychiatric functioning as well as the multiple combinations of symptoms may lead to a clinical phenotype similar to that in infantile autism (IA) with regressive features. We are conducting a study with the aim to evaluate a diagnostic test for PANS currently marketed by Moleculera Labs. All patients in Sweden who had taken the test ($n = 154$) were invited to the study.

Objectives The aim of the study is to characterize a subgroup of patients with IA within the PANS diagnosis study.

Methods Participants ($n = 53$) were examined for psychiatric and somatic symptoms and evaluated for PANS caseness by an experienced psychiatrist. Because the criteria for entering the study was having taken the diagnostic test for PANS, the participants in the study comprise a group with mixed symptoms.

Results Twelve participants had IA. Eleven of these reported a developmental regression with loss of abilities. Two of the IA patients also fulfill criteria for PANS. Eight of the IA patients had been treated with antibiotics for psychiatric symptoms and 4 reported a positive effect of this treatment. Nine of the patients had elevated test results suggesting possible PANS according to Moleculera Labs.

Conclusions Very early onset on PANS may be phenotypically similar to IA with regressive features. Further analysis of the immunological attributes of patients with autism with regressive features is warranted.

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Psychoaffectives repercussions of autism on parents

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Introduction Caring for a child with autism is a stressful experience for parents. The daily stress of this handicap has a major impact and triggers in the parents a series of adverse psychological reactions.

Aim To reveal sociodemographic characteristics of parents of autistic children and to estimate the prevalence of anxiety and depressive symptoms among these parents.

Methods A cross-sectional study conducted among parents of autistic children supported by four of autistic children rehabili-

tation centers under the Tunisian Association for the Promotion of Mental Health. Data were collected through a questionnaire to explore the sociodemographic data of parents of autistic children. Depressive symptoms were assessed by the Beck scale and anxiety symptoms by the Hamilton scale.

Results Fifty-two parents were collected. The middle age was 35.73 years. They lived in an urban area in 96% of cases. The majority had an average socioeconomic level (88.4%). The respective rates of depressed or anxious parents as Beck scales and Hamilton were 48% and 23%. The association between depressive and anxious symptoms was found in 19%. In addition, depression was more common in mothers ($P < 10^{-4}$) and anxiety was also more evident among mothers ($P = 0.01$).

Conclusion The presence of an autistic child causes profound changes in families and can be a source of tension and stress. The anxious and depressive impact on parents is important and frequent. The intervention that designs the psychiatrist to help children with autism should necessarily include an action for parents.

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Efficacy of the “cooperative assessment” diagnostic procedure to early improve acute symptoms in a sample of adolescents with anxiety and mood disorders

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Introduction Anxiety and mood disorders are common in adolescence and predict poor mental health outcomes and low quality of life in adulthood. Although early intervention seems to be critical, dropouts in the early stages of treatment are frequent and associated with low insight and severe symptoms. Therefore, a diagnostic assessment phase aimed to increase insight and early reduce symptoms appears to be essential in adolescents.

Objectives The objective of this study is to demonstrate that the diagnostic method Cooperative Assessment is able to early reduce symptoms in adolescents with anxiety and mood disorders.

Methods A sample of 88 patients, aged 14–19 years were included. All were recruited at the first visit and evaluated with the Cooperative Assessment. This manualized procedure was created from principles of collaborative and therapeutic assessment and aim to involve the patient in a co-developed diagnosis thor-