

Implications of this important intervention measure based on the demented patients' body relatively kept potential, will conclude the presentation.

P03.464

ATYPIC ANTYPHYCHOTICS IN THE TREATMENT OF BOTH COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIOURAL DEFICIENCY OF DEMENTIA

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It is thought that almost 6–8% of the over 65-year old population is suffering from dementia, and on the basis of reliable surveys they expect that in the next 30 years the world population of demented might reach the dramatic figure of 104 Millions. Therefore, dementia is a serious problem of public health. For patients, doctors and caregivers, an important clinical aspect is represented by the association cognitive symptoms-behavioural troubles that affect about 70% of patients suffering from dementia and often are cause of hospitalisation and/or institutionalization. The atypical antipsychotic SDA (Serotonin Dopamin Antagonist) and MARTA (Multiple Acting Targeted Antipsychotics) are largely used for both prevention and treatment of cognitive and behavioural troubles. Recent studies have pointed out the correlation among cerebral atrophy, dopaminergic transmission decrease, serotonergic transmission increase, onset and seriousness of cognitive deficiency, and emotional and behavioural troubles.

The aim of the present work is considering the efficacy of SDA (Risperidone) and MARTA (Olanzapine and Quetiapine) for cognitive and emotional deficiency and behavioural troubles in patients suffering from dementia.

Twenty patients have been monitored over a period of 16/20 months (14 men and 6 women between 35 and 75 years of age) suffering from pre-senile dementia (6); senile dementia (9); correlated AIDS dementia (3); alcoholic dementia (2). Five patients were given Risperidone in mono-therapy measuring 0.5–2 mg was given and eight patients received Risperidone in association with benzodiazepine; Olanzapine 2.5–5 mg was given in mono-therapy to four patients and two patients were treated in association; Quetiapine 25 mg has been given to one patient for a month.

The results point out a significant improvement in affectivity and a reduction in aggressiveness at productive symptomatology with a reasonable improvement of cognitive deficiencies. No relevant side effects. The efficacy of SDA and MARTA in the behavioural and cognitive treatment suggest a mutual target. The easiness of employment, the favourable profile of side effects, the good results are valid elements for a rational use in the dementia therapies.

P03.465

PHARMACOTHERAPY OF THE DOC RESISTANT

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Introduction: The DOC is included in the DSM IV among the troubles from anxiety despite the numerous epidemiological, immuno-biological, pharmacological and psycho-sociological studies tend to classify it as a separate entity. It is to be considered as a common trouble with an incidence of 2.5–3% in a life span. It comes out in youthful age with a negative impact on everyday functions and has a long and variable course. The prognosis for the patients suffering from this pathology has considerably improved with the clinical application of new therapeutic strategies; notwithstanding, 30–40% of them is resistant to SSRI treatment.

Aim: Considering alternative therapeutic strategies to DOC resistant

Method: 12 patients with DOC resistant have been monitored following a therapy with three-cyclical and SSRI. 4 were given a therapy of SSRI at 60 mg and risperidone 1 mg pro-die; 4 SSRI at 60 mg and lithium at 600 mg; 4 SSRI 60 mg and carbamazepine 400–600 mg. Control with clinical interviews and Y-BOCS.

Results: Out of the 12 patients, one treated with lithium interrupted the therapy due to side effects coming from a sudden rise in lithium. Those patients treated with SSRI and lithium have shown 40% improvement in symptoms and after one month's therapy the effects are stable. Overlapping of results with 20% improvement in patients with SSRI, risperidone, and carbamazepine. Two cases, considered interesting, of patients treated with SSRI and lithium will be reported.

Conclusions: The DOC is a disabling condition sensitive to specific medicines, like SSRI and also to the behavioural therapy. For those cases resistant to the conventional therapies, it is suggested to consider the association with anti-obsessional medicines (lithium seems to give the best results) and to pay special attention to situations of comorbidity.

P03.466

ASSOCIATION OF APOLIPOPROTEIN E AND ALPHA2MACROGLOBULIN WITH ALZHEIMER DISEASE IN CZECH POPULATION

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Purpose: Purpose of this study was to find an association between apolipoprotein E and alpha2 macroglobulin with late onset Alzheimer disease in Czech population.

Methods: We have examined group of 112 clinically well defined patients with late onset Alzheimer disease and 105 age and gender matched, non demented individuals. For genetic analysis of the apolipoprotein E and alpha2 macroglobulin polymorphisms we used simple and rapid method of detection by PCR restriction fragment length analysis.

Results: Distribution of apoE alleles was comparable to genetical studies from other central European countries. We found no association between alpha2 macroglobulin and late onset of Alzheimer disease. There was also no evidence of interaction between apolipoprotein E and alpha2 macroglobulin.

P03.467

DEVELOPMENT OF THE PTSD SYMPTOMS UNDER THE CONDITION OF THE SPECIFIC TRAUMATIC EVENT

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Posttraumatic Stress Disorder is defined as a mental disorder caused by the traumatic event.

Trauma concept is primarily for understanding the disorder, but it is not considered to be exclusive factor. Etiological theories specify the personal traits, which determine whether the symptoms will develop or not. On the other hand, DSM-IV delineates in definition that this is the disorder that can occur in any individual exposed to traumatic event. This attitude directs us to need to redefine the relationship between traumatic event and the personality of the individual in the course of the symptom development.

The investigation included 397 individuals who were treated during the 78 days of bombardment of the area of town Nis. The subjects investigated were exposed in the limited time period, at the

limited space to the same trauma, which had its specific characteristics. The aim of this paper is to determine the following questions: a) Does identical trauma cause specific symptoms complex? b) Is there chronological order of symptoms development in PTSD, caused by the unique specific stressor?

The results of this investigation, based on the following the evolution of symptoms at admission, 6 and 12 months after the traumatic events, show that the development of the specific symptoms of the disorder is possible in the population exposed. These results direct us to the concept of traumatic memory that can be considered as a relevant theoretical approach, operatively more consistent than the theoretical model of interaction of the trauma and personality. On the other hand these results show that there exists a clear chronological developmental order of the symptoms, with the evolving cognitive symptoms in the latter phases of the disorder, and that they can be considered as restitutive.

P03.468

MODES OF ADAPTATION TO PROLONGED STRESS IN INDIVIDUALS WITH DEPENDENT AND PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE PERSONALITY DISORDERS

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The aim of the study was to explore whether there are differences in the manner in which persons with different types of personality disorders react to prolonged environmental stress.

Method: Twenty three persons with personality disorders of different types were assessed in detail and followed up for a period or one year. Several standardized and semistandardized evaluation instruments were used in addition to the standard clinical assessment.

Results: The ten years of personal, familial and professional uncertainty and stress due to political developments independent of the patient's actions resulted in a variety of disabling symptoms in all the 23 patients with personality disorders. These symptoms included fatigue, irritability, depressive ruminations, suicidal ideas, reduction of vigilance and concentration and a loss of motivation to plan for the future. Patients with passive aggressive and dependent personality who are usually characterized by higher ratings of neuroticism scales, a persistent weakness of coping mechanisms (each demand leading too severe destabilization), a chaotic and rigid approach to the resolution of social problems (as well as by anxiety, depressive mood and vulnerability) reacted to the situation of prolonged stress with overwhelming negative emotions, helpless rage and indignation. Of the nine patients with these diagnoses two committed suicide and one attempted it.

P03.469

DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY IN PRE-MENSTRUAL SYNDROME

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Investigations using women's retrospective self-report of menstrual symptoms showed quite clearly that a significant proportion of women reported negative affective changes during the menstrual cycle. In some studies that had included assessment measures taken at different points in the menstrual cycle, no increases in pre-menstrual and menstrual negative affects have been found. Nevertheless, in other studies of similar design increases in negative affect around the time of menstruation have been noted. Our prospective study is an attempt to explore and compare anxiety and

depression among patients suffering from Pre-menstrual syndrome (N = 30- I group), major depression (N = 30- II group) and patients with no physical or psychiatric problems (N = 30- Control group) during two consecutive menstrual cycles. The assessments were made during follicular phase as well as luteal phase of the each menstrual cycle with standard psychometric instruments employed: Hamilton scales for depression and anxiety, MMPI 201 and clinical interview. All patients that had a history of previous psychiatric disorder from the I group, as well as patients that use contraceptive medication or had some somatic illness were excluded. In the I group the highest levels of depression and anxiety were found during the luteal phase, that could be compared with the similar scores noted among the patients with major depression. Anxiety and depression scores significantly decreased during the follicular phase, while such rapid decreasing of mentioned symptoms were not found among the patients from the II group. Significantly lower scores and no variations were explored among the control subjects. High correlation was found between scores on Hypochondriasis, Hysteria, Depression, and Psychasthenia scores of MMPI with PMS. Such results are the consequence of hormonal changes during menstrual cycle, psychological characteristics of women complaining of menstrual symptoms, attitudes and expectations toward menstruation and the feminine role, reactions to early environmental events in a way which does not enable them to develop adequate coping strategies.

P03.470

QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF WAR-RELATED STRESSORS AND A LEVEL OF DISTRESS: A PILOT STUDY

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In spite of many instruments for measuring war stressors, there are considerable problems regarding their quantification. The objectives of our study were: 1. construction and evaluation of the instrument for quantitative assessment of war-related stressors both in terms of frequency of exposure to the stressors and a level of distress caused by them and 2. determination of the frequency of exposure versus subjective feeling of distress caused by exposure to specific stressors in relation to posttraumatic pathology.

Method: After the clinical interview and a semistructured interview for assessment of war-related stressors, a sample of 115 combat veterans and 101 civilians, refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia temporarily settled in FR Yugoslavia, evaluated list of 79 items, representing different war-related stressors, their frequency and level of distress. In addition, they were assessed with Impact of Events Scale, Mississippi Scale for Combat Related PTSD and Symptom Checklist-90-R.

Results: The items clustered in six broad categories of potentially traumatic war experiences: 1. combat stressors, 2. stressors beyond the front line 3. injuries, 4. stressors related to imprisonment, 5. war-related deprivation, 6. loss of organizational/military structure. Scales of Exposure and Distress were constructed for each of category of the stressors. Internal consistency of the scales (Cronbach Alfa) ranged from 0.71 (Injury Scale) to 0.91 (Combat Exposure Scale). Scales discriminate group of patients with diagnosis of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and non-PTSD group. Most of scales correlate (0.16 – 0.41) with Impact of Event Scale and Mississippi Scale for Combat-Related PTSD. In general subjective feeling of distress caused by exposure to