

SPSS (v.29) were used to perform independent sample t-tests to test for effects and Hierarchical block-wise regressions were done to check for confounding variables.

Results: Lifetime cannabis use was associated with lower global functioning ($p=0.000$), increased risk of suicidal ideation ($p=0.007$), more suicide attempts ($p=0.049$), more self-reported symptoms ($p=0.001$), more school drop-out ($p=0.000$) and with psychotic features ($p=0.024$). Even after testing for known confounders such as female sex and age LUC explained significant variance.

Conclusions: LUC is associated with increased functional and clinical characteristics. The findings are discussed in relationship with clinical practice and limitations of the study.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: Cannabis; out-patient; ADHD

00016

Children and adolescents exposed to maltreatment already exhibit epigenetic patterns suggestive of heightened low-grade inflammation

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Introduction: Childhood maltreatment (CM) is one of the best described environmental risk factors for developing any psychiatric disorder, while it also confers increased odds for obesity, cardiometabolic disorders and all-cause mortality. Inflammation has been suggested to mediate the widespread clinical effects of CM. Previously, Lighthart et al. (2016) identified a polyepigenetic signature of circulating CRP levels, a measure of chronic low-grade inflammation, that has been reliably associated with a wide array of complex disorders. The study of this biomarker could elucidate the mechanistic relationship between CM and psychiatric outcomes.

Objectives: Thus, CRP-associated epigenetic modifications were explored regarding proximal exposure to CM.

Methods: Genomic DNA was extracted from peripheral blood mononuclear cells of 157 children and adolescents (7 to 17 years old). Exposure to CM was assessed following the TASSCV criteria. Genome-wide DNA methylation was assessed by means of the

EPIC array. Fifty-two out of the 58 original CRP-associated CpG sites surpassed quality control and were included in the analysis. Age, sex, psychopathological status and cell type proportions were included as covariates.

Results: DNA methylation at 12 out of 52 CpG sites (23%) was significantly associated with exposure to CM ($p < .05$); 8 of these associations survived correction for multiple testing ($q < .05$).

Conclusions: This is the first study to date to explore the relationship between childhood maltreatment and an epigenetic signature of chronic low-grade inflammation. Our findings underscore the presence of immune dysregulation early after exposure to CM; further studies are needed to assess the long-term clinical implications of this signature in psychiatric patients.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: childhood maltreatment; chronic low-grade inflammation; epigenetics; DNA methylation

Psychotherapy

00017

Recovery of healthy sexuality in patients with Anorexia Nervosa treated with Enhanced Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT-E): results from a two-year follow-up study highlighting the role of avoidant attachment style

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Introduction: There is a known association between the core psychopathological features of anorexia nervosa (AN) and sexual dysfunctions, to the point that the recovery of healthy sexuality could be considered a marker of recovery. However, no studies have evaluated the role of insecure attachment in moderating this recovery during treatment.

Objectives: To evaluate the role of insecure attachment as a possible moderator of the recovery of healthy sexuality in patients with AN treated with Enhanced Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT-E).

Methods: A total of 65 patients with anorexia nervosa were treated with CBT-E in a multidisciplinary environment, after filling out self-administered questionnaires for the evaluation of general (SCL-90-R) and ED-specific psychopathology (EDE-Q), female sexuality (FSFI) and adult attachment style (ECR). The assessment was repeated after one (T1) and two years (T2).

Results: At baseline, all domains of sexual dysfunction were significantly predicted by avoidant attachment. A significant amelioration of both general and eating disorder-specific psychopathology and sexual dysfunctions was observed at all follow-up evaluations with respect to baseline levels. However, only 45% of remitted patients also showed a complete recovery of healthy sexuality: this subgroup reported significantly lower avoidance scores when compared to patients who only recovered from AN. Moderation analysis indicated that sexual desire did not increase in participants with higher levels of avoidant attachment.