EPV0182

Fears and anxiety disorders in young children with autistic disorders

M. Kalinina[1]* and G. Kozlovskaya[2]

[1]child pcychiatry and [2]child psychiatry, FSBSI MHRC, Moscow, Russian Federation
*Corresponding author.
doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1533

Introduction: Current level of mental health in children and adolescents is alarming, the precursors of it disorders can appear at an early age.
Objectives: The phenomenological and prognostic features of children's anxiety and phobic states were studied.
Methods: The study conducted in 2022-2023 included 95 children of preschool age (among them 35 children under 3 years) with autistic disorders. For comparison, we used data from a follow-up study of 50 children lasting 15 years who had anxiety-phobic and autistic disorders at an early age. The control group included 30 children from the general population Assessment of the condition was carried out by clinical methods and original scales. PANSS scales were used in follow-up.
Results: At an early age, these were fears of a protopathic nature, horror during sleep or during short-term sleepy states, the so-called "night terror". Infants showed fears of touch, fear of manipulation: cutting hair, nails, pouring water while bathing in the shower, etc., due to a violation of sensory sensitivity. Also (among toddlers) frilly fears were found - water flowing into the bath, animalistic toys, along with autistic symptoms. In the catamnesis, there was an increase in symptoms. There were differentiated affective anxiety-phobic disorders, fragmentary phenomena and extended symptoms of a procedural nature (the total score on the PANSS scale exceeded 60 points, in 15 it reached 80). In the control group, normal development took place without psychopathology.
A direct relationship was found between the age of onset, the severity of early ontogenesis, and the phenomenological features of the disorders. In the premorbid of unfavorable forms of the course of schizophrenia, phobias were noted, comorbid outposts to symptoms of psychotic disorders resembling delusion, depersonalization symptoms.
Conclusions: The findings suggest that phobic anxiety disorders in early childhood may be a precursor to mental illness later in life.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0183

Attachment, Emotion Regulation and Physiological Reactivity in middle-childhood: a pilot study

M. Tironi*, S. Charpentier-Mora and F. Bizzi

University of Genova, Genova
*Corresponding author.
doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1534

Introduction: Attachment, as an interpersonal motivational system, is the relational ground that allows emotions to be regulated through action on the Autonomic Nervous System resulting in better psychological outcomes during middle childhood. Emotion dysregulation and autonomic function are often connected to psychiatric symptoms observed in adolescence (e.g. borderline personality disorder traits) and thus middle childhood becomes a critical age for psychopathological trajectories.
Objectives: Examine the relationship between child's attachment and both psychological and physiological emotional regulation.
Methods: 20 children (M_{age} = 10.7, SD = 1.25; 65% males) were recruited from general population. Attachment was measured through the *Child Attachment Interview* (CAI), while emotional regulation was assessed with a multimethod approach, using questionnaires i.e. *How I Feel* (HIF) and *Positive and Negative Affect* (PANAS), and physiological measurements i.e. Heart Rate Variability (ratio between High Frequency and Low Frequency, HF/LF, labeled as the child's sympathovagal balance) and Heart Rate (Beats Per Minute, BPM, as an index of physiological reactivity).
Results: Statistically significant correlations emerged between the HIF-Control scale and the Mother and Father Dismissal CAI scale, the PANAS-Negative Affect scale and the Mother and Father Preoccupied Anger CAI scale. Moreover, there was a non-significant but moderate effect ($rs > .30$) between HF/LF and the Emotional Openness and the Resolution scales of the CAI, and between BPM and the Emotional Openness scale.
Conclusions: Despite the small sample size, more secure children are able to connect with their emotions and properly use them in solving relational problems. Consequently, they are likely to succeed in understanding and regulating emotions as they manage to find more adaptive strategies their own. On the contrary, the presence of dismissal or anger (insecure attachment) towards parents would appear to lead to higher levels of psycho-physiological dysregulation, a core feature of Borderline Personality Disorder dimensions starting to emerge later in adolescence. Future studies should consider physiological dysregulation as an additional factor linked to psychopathological developmental trajectories.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0184

Emotional Experience, Physiological Reactivity, and Psychological Difficulties during middle childhood: a pilot study

S. Charpentier-Mora, M. Tironi* and F. Bizzi

University of Genova, Genova
*Corresponding author.
doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1535

Introduction: Many studies linked expression and regulation of emotions as transdiagnostic variables involved in the emergence of psychopathological disorders. However, few studies investigated such processes during middle childhood, a critical period of life defined by significant psychological, physical, and social changes.
Objectives: Explore the relationship between child's emotion regulation – both emotional subjective experience and physiological reactivity – and child's psychological difficulties.
Methods: 20 children (M_{age}=10.7, SD=1.25; 65% males) and their mothers were recruited from general population. Emotion regulation was assessed with (1) *How I Feel* (HIF) and *Positive and Negative Affect* questionnaires (PANAS) and (2) Heart Rate (i.e., Beats Per Minute, BPM) and Heart Rate

https://doi.org/10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1535 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Variability (i.e., High Frequency and Low Frequency ratio, LF/HF). Child's psychological difficulties were measured with the parent report *Child Behavioral Checklist 6-18* (CBCL-6/18).
Results: Statistically significant correlations emerged between the HIF-Positive emotions scale and both externalizing (*rs* = -.51) and internalizing (*rs* = -.46) difficulties; the HIF-Negative emotions scale and internalizing difficulties (*rs* = .49); LF/HF and internalizing difficulties (rs = -.58). Finally, a non-significant but moderate effect was found between the HIF-Negative emotions scale and externalizing difficulties (*rs* = .33).
Conclusions: Although the limited number of participants, data suggest an interesting role played by both child's emotional experience and physiological reactivity on internalizing and externalizing difficulties as reported by mothers. More specifically, child's experience of positive emotions is associated with fewer internalizing and externalizing difficulties, while child's experience of negative emotions illustrates an opposite relationship, implying the relevance of looking at child's emotional subjective experience in understanding psychological difficulties. Moreover, LF/HF ratio – labeled as the child's sympathovagal balance – seems like it might be higher in children with less internalizing difficulties. Although doubts about LF/HF interpretation, several studies share this view showing a decrease in autonomic reactivity in internalizing problems, such as depression, in adults. Overall, our preliminary results underline the importance of studying the emergence of psychopathological outcomes in middle childhood connected to both psychological and physiological emotional processes.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0185

Food addiction and impulsivity in adolescents: A cross-sectional survey of 360 cases

M. Chaabane*, D. Ben Touhemi, K. Chiha, W. Kammoun, J. Boudabous, I. Hajkacem, H. Ayadi, K. Khemakhem and Y. Moalla

Department of Child Psychiatry, Hedi Chaker Hospital, Sfax, Tunisia
*Corresponding author.
doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1536

Introduction: Impulsive personality Traits have been highly associated with both alcohol abuse and drug addiction, but have been accorded little attention in the context of food addiction.
Objectives: To study the relationship between impulsivity and food addiction in school-aged adolescents.
Methods: It is a cross-sectional, descriptive and analytical survey, conducted in a sample of secondary school students, randomly collected in 6 schools in the region of Sfax during February 2022. A pre established form of 33 questions, including socio- demographic and family information was used. Impulsivity was evaluated by the Barratt Impulsivity Scale (BIS-11; Patton et al., 1995). The BIS is a 30-item questionnaire that measures impulsivity along the following dimensions: cognitive, motor, and non-planning. The validated arabic version was used. *
The 25-item Yale Food Addiction Scale (YFAS), validated in Arabic, was used to assess food addiction in adolescents.
Results: Our sample consisted of 360 adolescents, with an average age of 16.62 years, being male in 52.2% and with a low to medium socio-economic level in 72.7% of them.
A total of 20% of the adolescents showed a tendency to impulsivity, 23.6% had impulse control disorder.
The food addiction score of our sample ranged from 0 to 56 with an average of 16.37 ± 12.380.
The average food addiction score for adolescents with impulse control disorder was 20.21 ±14.819 while the average food addiction score for adolescents without impulse control disorder was 15.18 ± 11.291.
Food addiction was strongly associated with impulsivity ($p < 0.001$).In particularly, Non-planning impulsivity was most strongly correlated with food addiction ($p < 0.001$, r ? 0.252)
Conclusions: Impulsivity, commonly related to addictive substance use behaviors, may be a significant risk factor for food addiction. Early monitoring of impulse control disorder may help to reduce addictive food consumption.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0186

Internet gambling disorder in adolescents: Prevalence and associated factors; A cross-sectional study of 360 cases

M. Chaabane*, D. Ben Touhemi, K. Chiha, W. Kammoun, J. Boudabous, I. Hajkacem, H. Ayadi, K. Khemakhem and Y. Moalla

Department of Child Psychiatry, Hedi Chaker Hospital, Sfax, Tunisia
*Corresponding author.
doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1537

Introduction: Gambling disorders have increased over time due to the easy availability of online games.
Objectives: The purpose of this study is to determine the prevalence of internet gambling disorder in an adolescent population and to identify associated factors.
Methods: It was a cross-sectional, descriptive and analytical study, conducted among a sample of high school students, randomly collected in 6 schools in the region of Sfax during the month of February 2022. A pre-established form of 33 questions, including socio-demographic and family information was used.
The Arabic version of the Internet Gaming Disorder-20 (IGD-20) questionnaire was used to assess online gaming activity. It is a 20-item questionnaire on a five-point Likert scale ranging from 1 to 5 (strongly disagree to strongly agree). A respondent's score was obtained by aggregating the 20 items. The higher the score, the more severe the gambling disorder. The cut-off score for the IGD-20 is 70. A score below 50 indicates occasional use; a score between 50 and 70 indicates problematic use; and a score above 70 indicates an online gambling disorder.
Results: We collected 360 adolescents, 52.2% of whom were male. The mean age of our patients was 16.62 years.
A total of 4.7% of the adolescents had an online gambling disorder, 26.9% had problematic use, while 68.3% were occasional users.
The analytical study revealed that online video game addiction was associated with male gender (p ?0.003), the presence of relationship problems with parents (p ?0.000), and low academic achievement (p ?0.000).