ATTACHMENT MODELS, POST-TRAUMATIC SYMPTOMATOLOGY AND EMOTIONAL REGULATION IN EARLY ADOLESCENCE: A COMPARATIVE CLINICAL STUDY

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In line with a consistent literature, Somatic Symptom Disorders (SSD) and Disruptive Behaviour Disorders (DBD) in early adolescence have experienced traumatic events, such as experiences of abuse, rejection, violence assisted. Recent studies are focusing the attention on the role of attachment, post-traumatic symptomatology, and emotional regulation for a better evaluation of these disorders. In this study, the objectives are: 1) to evaluate the attachment models in both these clinical conditions; 2) to evaluate post-traumatic symptomatology and emotional regulation related in these disorders; 3) to test the extent of the association between post-traumatic symptomatology or emotional regulation and attachment organization in these clinical conditions. 98 Italian patients in early adolescence, previously diagnosed with SSD (N = 42) and DBD (N = 56) were administered the Child Attachment Interview (CAI; Shmueli-Goetz et al., 2008), Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children (TSCC-A; Briere, 1996) and the Emotional Regulation Questionnaire for Children and Adolescents (ERQ-CA; Gross and John 2003). Insecure attachment was found in more than half of the patients in both disorders and Disorganization attachment was over-represented. DBD patients showed more Dismissing attachment, Post-Traumatic Symptoms and Emotional Suppression that SSD. This study suggests that attachment models, post-traumatic symptomatology and emotional regulation may be fundamental elements to be assessed in the evaluation of clinical conditions in early adolescence.
EFFECTS OF PSYCHOSOCIAL INTERVENTIONS ON SOCIAL FUNCTIONING AND SYMPTOMS IN DEPRESSION.


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Psychological interventions in psycho-social rehabilitation can improve the quality of life in patients with psychiatric disorders. This paper discusses the issue of psychiatric rehabilitation in community inpatients according to the methodology adopted in the Psychiatric Care Service "Colle Cesarano". Specifically, we present a single case study of a female patient subjected to psycho-social rehabilitation. Psycho-social rehabilitation improves patient's quality of life and reduces psychiatric symptoms. Before accessing to the rehabilitation process, patient has been assessed through W AIS-IV, MMSE; SCL-90, BPRS, Scale Kennedy, GAF, LP. A re-assessment has been performed in a second time of rehabilitation. A significant improvement can be observed in the quality of life and reduction of psychiatric symptoms.

FAMILY PROFILES IN EATING DISORDERS: FAMILY FUNCTIONING AND PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL RISK

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International literature has underlined an association between family functioning and patients with eating disorders. Early adolescence is an important period that fosters a re-organization of family functioning and, as confirmed by literature, it’s important for the onset of eating disorders. The aim of this study is to investigate the existence of a specific family functioning and psychopathological risk in families with adolescent daughters with eating disorders. On the basis of these premises, we conducted a cross-sectional study, recruiting N=181 families of adolescents (average age 14,09) affected by Anorexia Nervosa (Group A, N=61), Bulimia Nervosa (Group B, N=60) and Binge Eating Disorder
(Group C, N=60). The families (mothers, fathers and daughters) were assessed through the Symptom-Check List-90 items-Revised (SCL/90-R) and the Family Adaptability and Cohesion Evaluation Scale-IV (FACES-IV). Family functioning was evaluated with means score of perception family functioning of the three family members. We carried out ANOVA to verify differences between groups on psychopathological risk and on family functioning and linear regressions to evaluate the influence of family functioning on adolescents’ psychopathological risk. Our results show that family functioning differs in the three Groups. Further, our results indicate that adolescents and parents in Group A, B and C show a peculiar psychopathological profile and, in particular, adolescents with anorexia presenting the most severe psychopathological risk. Interestingly, perception of their family functioning predicts adolescents’ psychopathological risk, differently in the three Groups. This research confirms international literature data on eating disorders: the association between family functioning and psychopathological risk in family members.