

needs perceived by patients with SMI and their family members, as well as to find out possible relations between the needs and socio-demographic and clinical variables. Similarly the study was intended to evaluate family burden and users' satisfaction with services.

Fifty dyads of a patient and family members applying for outpatient services were participated in the study. Sociodemographic questionnaire, Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale, Camberwell assessment of needs, involvement evaluation questionnaire and verona service satisfaction scale were used as assessment tools.

The most unmet needs reported by people with SMI and their relatives were psychological distress, social activities and welfare benefits. The study showed significant burden in families caring for people with SMI, which correlated with their views about patients' needs and had a negative impact on the psychological well-being. Evaluation of satisfaction with services pointed out the gap between provided and desired services reported by patients and their relatives. Most of study participants wished to have sheltered work, or receive help in finding employment.

The study results suggest that in order to achieve better outcomes, services for persons with SMI should be developed in accordance with patients' most prominent needs. With this regard needs assessment should become an integral part of routine clinical practice. The results may be used for mental health service planning, development and evaluation.

Disclosure of interest The author has not supplied his/her declaration of competing interest.

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Work memory and inhibition in abused children

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Introduction It has been shown that children with a history of abuse tend to have a deficit in both their academic and cognitive abilities. Mesa-Gresa, P., & Moya-Albiol, L. (2011) [1]. This study aimed to identify the relationship between abuse (psychological, neglect, custody and abandonment) and the performance of executive functions of memory of verbal work and inhibition.

Method The Executive Function battery (Gonzalez, M., & Ostrosky, F., 2012) [2] was applied to 38 preschoolers 4–5 year olds who have experience abuse and to 36 preschoolers who have not. Data was analysed using the test t for independent samples and the Chi-cuadrado from Pearson.

Results Inhibition was affected in children with psychological abuse and negligence. It means that children presented difficulty in controlling their behaviour. Children victim of abandonment showed lower performance of executive functions of memory of verbal work. Such function allows them to carry on daily activities efficiently. Conversely, children without previous history of abuse showed higher performance in both tests especially in inhibition.

Conclusion Findings suggest that child abuse in preschoolers can influence the performance in their executive functions without difference in gender.

Keywords Executive functions; Child abuse; Preschoolers; Inhibition; Memory of verbal work

Disclosure of interest The author has not supplied his/her declaration of competing interest.

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What about the hidden face of Akathisia?

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Introduction Akathisia is commonly known for its objective components such as rocking while standing or sitting and lifting feet. However, little is known about its psychiatric impact that can even lead to suicidal attempts.

Objectives The aim of this study is to investigate the main psychiatric symptoms associated with akathisia in a Tunisian sample of patients under treatment for Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective or Bipolar Disorder.

Methods Fifteen patients were diagnosed with akathisia using the Barnes Akathisia Scale. Psychiatric symptoms related to akathisia such as mood lability, sadness, anxiety, aggressivity, suicidal ideation, insomnia and social and professional impairment were assessed.

Results The average age of the sample was 47 years. The average antipsychotic chlorpromazine-equivalent total dosage was 1756 mg. All patients reported at least one psychiatric symptom imputed to akathisia. These were: mood lability ($n = 11$), inner restlessness ($n = 10$), anxiety ($n = 10$), sadness ($n = 10$), aggressivity ($n = 6$), and insomnia ($n = 12$). Eight patients described suicidal ideation and five confessed having committed a suicide attempt. Four and ten said akathisia had professional and social impact respectively. The prevalence of psychiatric symptoms did not differ according to sex, age, diagnosis, illness duration, presence of a comorbid anxiety disorder, the number and types of antipsychotics used, the antipsychotic chlorpromazine-equivalent total dosage or the reported drug compliance.

Conclusions Psychiatric symptoms resulting from Akathisia remain frequently undetected. Special interest by the clinician is required to elicit these symptoms.

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Self-esteem links with anxiety and depression at one community adolescent sample

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