

between both groups can be identified. In addition, impaired DC Offset values could indicate functional abnormalities in one cerebellar hemisphere or in oculomotor centers of the parieto-occipital region.

THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL WITHDRAWAL ON SIMPLE AND CHOICE REACTION TIME IN ALCOHOL DEPENDENT INPATIENTS

A.H. Günthner, V. Heuer-Jung, H. Schmid, K. Mann.
Universitätsklinik für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie, Addiction Research Center, Oslanderstr. 22, D-72076 Tübingen, Germany

Twenty alcohol dependent inpatients were tested five times over the course of their 3-week detoxification treatment, measuring their visual and auditory simple reaction times as well as their choice reaction times.

The average results showed a highly significant improvement ($p < 0.001$) in all measures. Simple reaction time performance improved most in the beginning and at the end of detoxification treatment, with a plateau in the middle of treatment, whereas a constant improvement over time was seen in choice reaction time performance, irrespective of sensory mode. The results were independent of age, duration of alcohol dependence and average or maximum alcohol consumption one month before treatment.

Although the average results showed a clear improvement of performance in all measures, analyses of individual performance over time revealed highly different and variable patterns, indicating that linearity of improvement in performance might be a statistical phenomenon rather than an adequate description of individual performance during withdrawal.

ALTERED STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS OF HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS AND PSYCHOTIC EXPERIENCE: AN EMPIRICAL COMPARISON WITH THE SELF-RATING SCALES APZ AND OAV

E. Habermeyer, E. Gouzoulis-Mayfrank, E.M. Steinmeyer, L. Hermle, H. Sass. *Institute of Psychiatry, Technical University of Aachen, Pauwelsstrasse 30, D-52057 Aachen*

Dittrich et al. developed the two self-rating scales APZ (altered states of consciousness) and OAV (oceanic boundlessness, dread for ego dissolution, visionary restructuring) for the reliable and valid assessment of altered states of consciousness, which are induced by hallucinogenic drugs or sensory deprivation in normal subjects. We examined 100 patients who suffered from acute endogenous psychosis with these self-rating scales. The aim of this study was to find out the differences and similarities between the experience of patients with acute psychosis and the altered states of consciousness of healthy volunteers: Are the questionnaires APZ and OAV suitable tools for the assessment of psychotic experience? Is there a correlation between the patients' symptomatic answers and the clinical state? Which items are appropriate for the examination of psychotic patients, which are not? The results support the assumption that acute endogenous psychotic states have strong similarities with altered states of consciousness of normal subjects. Our data add an argument to the utility of the model-psychosis paradigm as a tool for psychiatric research.

AUTOGENES TRAINING UND FUNKTIONELLE ENTSPANNUNG: EIN VERGLEICH VEGETATIVER STEUERUNGSPROZESSE

D. Hager, P. Joraschky, T. Loew, M. Mück-Weymann. *Abteilung für Psychosomatische Medizin und Psychotherapie der Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg an der Psychiatrischen Universitätsklinik mit Poliklinik, Schwabachanlage 10, D-91054 Erlangen, Deutschland*

Während beim Autogenen Training (AT) ein trophotroper Erholungszustand über die Beeinflussung des Parasympatikums herbeigeführt wird, werden durch die funktionelle Entspannung nach Marianne Fuchs (FE) Dynamisierung, Rhythmisierung und dadurch Normalisierung vegetativer Prozesse induziert. Um für Therapiebeginner das geeignete der beiden Entspannungsverfahren herauszufinden, haben wir eine Kassette erstellt, mit der 52 Probanden, die weder im AT noch in der FE geübt waren, nacheinander AT- und FE-Instruktionen vorgespielt bekamen. Nach dem Versuch wurden ein Spannungsfragebogen und Befindlichkeitsfragebögen zum Versuchserleben ausgegeben. Versuchsbegleitend wurde der Laser-Doppler-Flux — als Äquivalent der Hautdurchblutung — jeweils an Stirn und Mittelfingerkuppe rechts aufgezeichnet; ausserdem Herz- und Atemfrequenz (HF bzw. AF).

In der Auswertung wurden die Probanden entsprechend des Spannungsfragebogens in eine entspannte (GI), mässig verspannte (GII) sowie stark verspannte, symptomatische Gruppe (GIII) unterteilt.

Insgesamt wurde bei allen 3 Gruppen die HF nur durch das AT im Sinne einer Abnahme beeinflusst. Die AF nahm bei GI im AT leicht ab, in GII und GIII unter FE. An der Stirn nahm die Hautdurchblutung bei allen Gruppen über beide Übungen hin zu. Am ausgeprägtesten war dieser Effekt bei GI und GII. Die Hautdurchblutung am Mittelfinger stieg unter AT am stärksten bei GI, unter FE bei GIII an.

Bisher scheint das AT als dämpfendes Verfahren einen leicht stärkeren Einfluss auf die entspannten Probanden zu haben, auf die FE als dynamisierendes Verfahren reagieren dagegen eher die sehr verspannten Probanden. Die Selbstbeurteilung zeigt eine für AT und FE schlechtere Einschätzung durch die verspannten Probanden als durch die entspannten.

Zusammenfassend beurteilt sollte für besonders verspannte Patienten bevorzugt die funktionelle Entspannung das Therapieverfahren der Wahl darstellen, für entspannte Patienten das Autogene Training gewählt werden.

PSYCHOPATHOLOGIC ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS DURING TREATMENT WITH GYRASE INHIBITORS. METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS AND RESULTS OF A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

M. Hollweg, H.P. Kapfhammer, M. Krupinski, H.J. Möller.
University of Munich, Psychiatric Hospital, Nussbaumstr. 7, D-80336 Munich, Germany

Objectives: Psychopathological and neurological adverse drug reactions (ADR) during treatment with gyrase inhibitors have been repeatedly reported. Results of former studies indicate a high risk for ADR especially in the elderly with high dosage medication, psychiatric history and renal dysfunctions. The pathophysiological mechanisms involved in the development of adverse CNS-effects are not completely understood. GABA-ergic and monoaminergic mechanisms might play a major role. The aim of our study was to identify characteristic risk factors for psychopathological ADR.

Methods: 4189 reports of consultant psychiatric examinations were analyzed. Possible risk factors as psychiatric history, severe somatic diseases or social stress factors were evaluated.

Results: In 29 patients the suspicion of psychopathological ADR during treatment with ofloxacin or ciprofloxacin was documented. Psychopathological findings included delirious states, paranoid, de-

pressive and manic syndromes, agitation, sleep disturbances, sopor and stupor. In elderly patients delirious and paranoid syndromes were predominant, whereas affective disturbances occurred more often in younger patients.

Discussion: Our findings show that in most of the ADR-patients of this study several risk factors could be identified. In most cases multimorbidity, liver or kidney diseases, simultaneous treatment with other antibiotics and immunosuppressants, former psychiatric disorders or psychosocial stress factors were present. Moreover, the results illustrate problems to assess the ADR frequency. Due to a different methodological approach our findings cannot be compared with the results of postmarketing studies.

MENTALLY ABNORMAL OFFENDERS AND DIFFICULT PATIENTS IN JAPAN — A SURVEY IN A PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

A. Iwanami¹, Y. Nakatani², K. Tsuchiya³, M. Yamashina⁴, S. Iritani⁴, H. Fujimori⁴, K. Kamijima¹. ¹ Department of Psychiatry, Showa University School of Medicine, 1-5-8 Hatanodai, Shinagawaku, Tokyo 142, Japan; ² Tokyo Institute of Psychiatry, Tokyo 142, Japan; ³ Department of Psychiatry, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo 142, Japan; ⁴ Tokyo Metropolitan Matsuzawa Hospital, Tokyo 142, Japan

Contrary to European countries, in Japan there are no special psychiatric facilities for mentally abnormal offenders and dangerous psychiatric patients. In Japan, if criminal offenders are considered mentally ill by the police or the court, they will be transferred to a psychiatric hospital and judicial authorities will never process them. The treatment and the discharge of such patients will be decided by psychiatrists alone. The government has planned to develop forensic services similar to regional secure units in England and Wales, however, these have not been established since opposition to such facilities is too strong. To recognize profiles of criminal psychiatric patients and difficult patients in addition to their violent behavior in the psychiatric hospital, the authors carried out a survey of patients admitted to Tokyo Metropolitan Matsuzawa Hospital, which is the only public mental hospital in the metropolitan district and has approximately 1,000 beds. Among 320 patients admitted over 6 months in 1992, 53 patients (17%) were found to have had a history of offense. This group of patients was relatively younger and had mostly committed minor offenses or violations of drug-laws; about two-thirds had a history of drug abuse and had been frequently hospitalized due to substance-induced mental disorder. Although a follow-up study revealed that there were no clear differences between offenders and non-offenders with regard to length of hospital stay and dosage of antipsychotic medication, patients with a history of minor offenses exhibited more frequent violent behaviors than patients with no history of offense.

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS IN TORTURE VICTIMS OF YUGOSLAV CIVIL WAR 1991–1995

A. Jovanović¹, D. Dunjić², B. Aleksandrić², J. Marinković³. ¹ Institute of Psychiatry, Clinical Center of Serbia, Pasterova 2, 11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia; ² Institute of Forensic Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, 11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia; ³ Institute of Statistics, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, 11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Objective: This study analyzes the structure of psychiatric disorders in torture victims of Yugoslav Civil War 1991–1995.

Method: The research on 96 subjects has been conducted in the field of Bosnia and Herzegovina by specialists in forensic medicine and neuropsychiatry; psychiatric diagnoses were established according to DSM-IV criteria, severity of psychopathological consequences

of torture was measured by scores on Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (GAF) and Impact of Events Scale (IES).

Results: Psychiatric disorders were diagnosed in 57% of subjects (without psychiatric disorders before torture) and in 24% chronic posttraumatic stress disorder was present; the incapacitation measured by GAF was strongly correlated to time spent in enemy prison.

Conclusion: This study has confirmed the extremely stressful potentials of torture repertoire carried out on prisoners of war.

HALLUCINATIONS IN EXTRASENSORY HEALERS: PHENOMENOLOGICAL AND SOCIOCULTURAL ANALYSIS

O.G. Karagodina. *Contemporary Religious Processes Study Department, The Philosophy Institute of National Academy of Sciences, 4, Triohsviatytska str., 252001, Kyiv, Ukraine*

A number of data reveals the influence of the sociocultural factors on hallucinations both in psychiatric patients and in healthy persons. The aim of this study was to examine the hallucinations phenomena in 100 extrasensory healers who had never visited the psychiatrist in their lifetime. The respondents were considered as the carriers of the religious mystical and parascientific outlook that includes the concepts of the orientalist belief. We used the methods of interview and structural psychopathological analysis. There were studied the phenomenology and emergence mechanisms of tactile (98 cases), visual (63 cases) and auditory (37 cases) hallucinations which were connected either with healing practice or were beyond it. It was shown that the tactile and visual experience which follow the healing practice may be estimated as suggestive one in the consequence of the predominant ideas (parapsychological, religious and mystical concepts) and assimilation of psychic techniques in the training courses of extrasensory healing. The probability for the visual and auditory hallucinations to emerge was higher for that healers who had perception disorders in amnesia. We came to the conclusion that the healer's hallucinations were socially sanctioned, since in the course of recent years our social consciousness has accepted some visions peculiar to the non-Western cultures. The healing practice was found to promote the coping strategies with respect to hallucinations and using the experience for the creative development in those persons who had had before the psychic and psychological problems.

FOLLOW UP OF PATIENTS BEREAVED IN THE STARDUST DISASTER

V. Keane, J.A. Mullaney. *St. Ita's Hospital, Eastern Health Board, Dublin, Ireland*

Objective: To assess the psychiatric morbidity in parents bereaved of a late adolescent child in a manmade disaster some fourteen years later and to compare findings with morbidity at the one and three year stage.

Methods: As many bereaved parents as possible were interviewed using a semistructured interview, the GHQ-30, Scl-90-R and Stardust Bereavement scale.

Results: Morbidity was surprisingly persistent. While there were some incremental improvement, scores on a number of psychopathological indices remained stable from year three to fourteen. The profile of bereavement items indicated changes over time but the magnitude of emotional distress did not appear to lessen.

Conclusions: The results suggest revision of many concepts of bereavement in these circumstances, particularly pertaining to the evolution of symptoms over time.