

who refused to participate in the study. Sociodemographic data, such as age, gender, marital and social status, level of education, employment, living situation as well as main psychiatric diagnoses, and clinical history including previous psychiatric treatments of subgroups of patients randomized to completely inpatient setting or to day-care hospitals will be described, compared and analyzed. Possible reasons of differences between individual centers will be discussed.

S37.3

Psychopathology and social disabilities of day-hospital and inpatients during acute treatment

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Objectives: During the ongoing multicenter randomized, controlled trial EDEN (European Day Hospital Evaluation), which evaluating treatment and costs of psychiatric day hospital comparing to inpatient care, the dynamics of psychopathology and social functioning of patients are assessed.

Method: The sample consists of 333 acute adult psychiatric patients hospitalized randomly in day hospital or inpatient care in five European centers: Dresden, London, Michalovce, Prague and Wrocław. They were assessed after initial periods of three days, one week and four weeks as well as at discharge using the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS) and the Groningen Social Disabilities Schedule (GSDS). Total BPRS scores and GSDS sum scores of each 8 social roles were used in the data analysis.

Results: Considering the ongoing study, preliminary results will be presented on the conference.

Conclusions: We expected to confirm the hypothesis that there were no difference in reduction of overall psychopathology between day hospital and inpatient group, but day hospital is associated with better social functioning.

S37.4

Burden on relatives comparing treatment in inpatient and day-hospital settings

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Research has shown that family members of mentally ill may be exposed to substantial burden, the impact of which is often felt across many aspects of life, such as leisure, relations with friends, and mental and physical health. With regard to this, within a multi-centre randomised controlled study comparing day-hospital treatment and inpatient treatment for acute mentally ill, the objective and subjective burden on the patients' relatives as well as their general health was assessed using the Involvement Evaluation Questionnaire (IEQ; van Wijngaarden et al., *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 177, suppl. 39, s21-s27) and the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-28). The period to be rated covered the last four weeks prior to admission and the first four weeks of treatment.

The authors will present multivariate analyses, controlling the outcome measures for specific covariates such as patients' clinical variables (e.g. psychopathology, social functioning) and patients' and relatives' socio-demographic characteristics. Analyses will refer to the patients and relatives recruited during the first 12 months of the ongoing study, thus presumably including about

N=500 patients and relatives. Implications of the findings will be discussed.

S37.5

Subjective evaluation criteria in the EDEN-Study

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Previous randomised controlled trials comparing acute day hospital treatment with conventional inpatient care consistently demonstrated a higher treatment satisfaction in day hospital patients. There is relatively little evidence as to whether day hospital treatment also leads to more favourable results on other subjective evaluation criteria such as indicators of quality of life and needs. The EDEN Study – a European multi centre randomised controlled trial comparing day hospital treatment and full hospitalisation – systematically investigated subjective evaluation criteria in both treatment arms.

The findings are roughly in line with previous research, but not fully consistent across all five centres. Subjective evaluation criteria tend to be more positive in day hospital treatment. Changes of those criteria over time in the day hospital to some extent differ from patterns found in conventional hospital care. The tested criteria show intercorrelations of varying degrees which challenges their conceptual framework as independent variables and their separate use in evaluative research.

S38. Ethical aspects of psychiatric genetic research

Chairs: M. Rietschel (D), J. Hauser (PL)

S38.1

Attitudes towards psychiatric genetics in the Weimar Republic

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In the history of psychiatry eugenic thoughts and psychiatric genetics formed a fatal alliance. Especially in Germany this alliance resulted in atrocities which discredited psychiatric genetics for the following years.

It has often been argued what kind of ethics doctors applied during the years prior to the Third Reich towards psychiatric genetics or whether they applied any ethics at all.

A possible source for such research is formed by book reviews on genetic textbooks in scientific or general journals.

In this presentation the attitudes of German opinion leaders towards psychiatric genetics are investigated for the period of the Weimar Republic with the use of 324 systematically screened book reviews on the contemporary standard textbook on "Human Heredity and Racial Hygiene" by Erwin Baur, Eugen Fischer and Fritz Lenz.

The attitudes expressed in the reviews cannot be considered as bearing no ethics at all, but the ethics applied here were antiindividualistic and bore dangers to humanity.