

P-301 - RECOGNITION OF EMOTIONAL FACIAL EXPRESSIONS AND BROAD AUTISM PHENOTYPE IN PARENTS OF AUSTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER

M.T.Kadak

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Van Yuzuncu Yil Medical Faculty, Van, Turkey

Introduction: Autism spectrum disorder is a neuropsychiatric disorder defined by the presence of social deficits, communication abnormalities, stereotyped or repetitive behaviours. A number of family and twin studies have suggested that a behavioral phenotype that is qualitatively similar to but more broadly defined than that which defines autism occurs more commonly in relatives of autistic individuals than in the general population.

Objectives: In this research, relation between broad autism phenotype and impairment of facial expression of emotion were studied.

Method: Seventy-two parents who had a child with a diagnosis of DSM-IV Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and 38 parents who had a typically developing child and without family history of ASD were included. The parents were assessed for broad autism phenotype by Autism-Spectrum Quotient (ASQ) and Broad Autism Phenotype Questionnaire (BAPQ) and for impairment in the recognition of facial expressions by Emotion Recognition Test. Student's t-test was used to evaluate the differences between the two groups. Results had compared by using ANOVA and ANCOVA.

Results: The social skill and aloofness scores of parents with autistic children was found significantly higher than healthy group ($p < 0.05$). Parents of children with autism performed less well than controls on accuracy of surprise facial expressions.

Conclusions: Parents of children with autism seem to have higher risk for social interaction features than others. Parents of children with autism may have more problems with recognition of facial expressions.