

cortisol measured in 5 time points during the TSST. Patients with FEP experience more levels of baseline cortisol, and less changes during the stress test than controls. Baseline stress levels indicated in the salivatory cortisol levels correlate with perceived self-esteem, psychological and social quality of life.

Conclusion Our findings support the alterations of stress response, possibly indicating vulnerability to stress in persons with FEP.

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EW0505

Executive function assessment in young hospitalized schizophrenic patients with the “CANTAB Schizophrenia Battery” (Russian sample)

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Introduction Impairment of executive function is the fundamental feature of the cognitive dysfunction in schizophrenia has to be measured throughout the illness regularly. Computerized technologies for assessment of cognitive dysfunction are widely used. However, their applicability in hospitalized schizophrenic patients setting should be specially examined.

Objective Executive function in schizophrenia.

Aims To test the applicability of “CANTAB” neurocognitive battery for measurement of executive function in young hospitalized schizophrenic patients in Russian sample.

Methods Fifteen inpatients diagnosed with schizophrenia according to ICD-10 (F 20.xx), 13 males and 2 females, aged 23.5(SD 3.2), disease duration is 5(SD 1.6) years and 16 healthy individuals, 7 males and 9 females, aged 21.3(SD 0.7). Spatial Working Memory (SWM) (Mnemonic Executive function), Stockings of Cambridge (OTS) (Planning Executive function), Intra/Extra-Dimensional Shift (IED) (Cognitive flexibility) were administered.

Results The majority of patients and controls easily understood the test instructions. Both groups did not have any difficulties with the touchpad. The “CANTAB” demonstrated sensitivity to the impairments of executive function. As a group, patients with schizophrenia performed significantly worse than controls on almost all tests: SWM–Between errors ($P=0.028$), Total errors ($P=0.019$), Strategy ($P=0.03$), Mean time to last response ($P=0.001$); OTS–Mean choices to correct ($P=0.044$), Problems solved on first choice ($P=0.009$), Probability of error given correct ($P=0.021$); IED–Total errors ($P=0.015$), Total trials ($P=0.002$).

Conclusion The “CANTAB” is an applicable instrument for assessment of the executive function in young hospitalized schizophrenic patients. It can be used both for experimental and clinical needs.

Disclosure of interest The authors have not supplied their declaration of competing interest.

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EW0506

Psychological traits of skin picking disorder and psychogenic itch

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Introduction Despite the intense discussion of psychiatric comorbidity in psychodermatology, research on psychological components of skin picking and psychogenic itch is limited, especially when it concerns patients’ representation of skin perception and their attitude towards disease.

Objectives To characterize psychological traits of skin picking and psychogenic itch disorder by comparing aspects of bodily experience.

Aims To reveal internal relations of different components of bodily experience in skin picking and psychogenic itch.

Methods Thirty patients with skin picking disorder (L98.1) and 18 patients with psychogenic itch (F45.8) participated in the study. The psychosemantic method “Classification of sensations” was used to assess bodily experience. It includes estimation of 80 descriptors from 6 classes of bodily sensations: skin (ex. “itch”), inner body (ex. “sickness”), receptor (ex. “sticky”), emotional (ex. “anxiety”), dynamics (ex. “exhaustion”) and attitudinal descriptors (ex. “bad”). Cluster and factor analysis were performed.

Results The most significant aspect of bodily experience in skin picking was its dynamics as a transition from irritation to calmness connected with the sensation of itch opposed to all other sensations (there were opposite signs of factor loadings of these variables and they were included in the factor explaining 45% of total variance). In contrast, in psychogenic itch these relations are diffuse and consist of connections between skin sensations and inner bodily sensations and descriptors of emotions reflecting functional origin of disorder.

Conclusion Traits of psychological components in skin picking disorder and psychogenic itch should be concerned in the complex (psychiatric, psychological and dermatological) treatment of these disorders.

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EW0507

Interaction of symptoms and cognitive dysfunction in remitted schizophrenic patients with and without residua – important sign of heterogeneity for design of cognitive enhancer studies

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Introduction It is well-known fact that cognitive dysfunction (CD) determines the quality of remission in patients with schizophrenia. However many attempts to demonstrate the link between symptoms and CD failed. The reason for this fact is unclear.