

EV1524

Sex differences in experimental studies of depression: How can clinical research benefit?

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Introduction Sex differences in depression and antidepressant response in humans are modestly studied and results are controversial. Experimental studies using animal models may provide insights that could be useful in clinical trials.

Objectives The objective is to summarize findings from preclinical studies on sex differences and suggest how such preclinical research might be of use in clinical research.

Aims Specifically it is aimed to summarize evidence for both sexes in relation to the phenotype of depression, its endophenotype and the antidepressant response.

Methods A selection of experimental studies on sex differences in stress and antidepressant response was performed and their findings were linked to potential confounders or methodological issues that might obscure the results of clinical trials.

Results In preclinical studies, behavioral indices and models are adjusted for both sexes, in order to properly identify sex differences in primary outcomes. This is not routinely happening in clinical studies when using depression rating scales, which is the analogue of behavioral indices. Moreover, preclinical studies show sex differences at the baseline behavioral response and underlying mechanisms that often converge following antidepressant treatment. This is also a neglected issue in human studies. Finally, preclinical research suggests that when researching on potential biomarkers for depression and antidepressant response sex should be an important factor to consider.

Conclusions Cautious exploitation of findings on sex differences from preclinical research could improve the design and quality of clinical studies for disease biomarkers and novel antidepressants and facilitate the drug development in a gender aware manner.

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EV1525

The psychological effects of abuse and battering on wives and partners: Case study in the Philippines

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Introduction In the country, the most prevalent form of violence against women is physical abuse/maltreatment or wife/partner battering based on both records of the Philippine national police, and the women in especially difficult circumstances.

Objectives This study looked into the psychological effects of abuse and battering on wives-partners.

Aims This paper will also give a description on how battered wives acquire a learned helplessness behavior due to uncontrollable events or situations.

Methods The methods used were structured interview method and case method, and interview with a psychiatrist in the hospital where the three cases had consultations.

Results Wife battering refers to violent acts such as psychological, sexual or physical assault by an assailant against his partner

with the intent of controlling by inducing fear and pain. It is a common incident being violated under RA 9262. Three cases were studied. One was stabbed 12 times by her live in “matador” partner who works in a slaughter house. The second case was about a partner who was forced to do sexual favors for her husband that were animalistic and perverted. On the third case, while married, she noticed that the man was also sexually perverted. He also raped their daughter.

Conclusion All three cases also manifested depression in various forms with varying symptoms. Case A was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (evaluation made by the psychiatrist). Case A manifested symptoms of depression, panic of being attacked again by assailant who is at large.

Keywords Abuse; Battering; Wives and partners; Depression; Psychological effect

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Gender differences in external factors affecting psychiatric visits in a Greek hospitalG. Lyrakos^{1,*}, E. Kornarou², D. Menti¹, V. Spinaris¹, I. Spyropoulos¹¹ *General Hospital Nikaia “Ag. Panteleimon”, Psychiatric, Nikaia, Greece*² *National School of Public Health, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Athens, Greece*

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Introduction According to previous literature, there are important differences, based on gender, on the external factors that affect psychiatric visits of individuals. Females are, in general, more likely to report being affected by family and emotional issues whilst men are less likely to do so.

Objectives To examine gender differences in external factors affecting psychiatric visits.

Aims To investigate whether females report different external factors, which impact on the decision to visit a psychiatrist, compared to males.

Methods In this study, there were 1205 participants, out of them 685 were males (56.8%) and 520 females (43.2%). The mean age was 45.54. Convenience sampling method was used and participants were recruited from the general hospital of Nikaia, “Ag. Panteleimon”, in Athens, Greece, from 01/01/2012 to 31/12/2015. The data were analysed through the SPSS software.

Results There were significant gender differences in external factors reported for psychiatric visits, as $\chi^2(8): 185.608, P < 0.001$. More specifically, more women reported being affected by family problems (5.5%) compared to men (2.6%). Additionally, more females reported being affected by emotional issues (7%) compared to men (5.6%) and psychological issues were more important for women (13.9%) compared to men (7.5%), as well. However, more men reported addictions as the external factors impacting on psychiatric visits (23.1%) compared to women (6.6%).

Conclusions There are significant differences in the external factors affecting psychiatric visits between men and women. Further investigating such differences could help us better understand the reasons affecting the individuals’ decision to seek psychiatric help.

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