

Results: Patients were randomized to receive DVS 100-400mg (N=1048; 18-39 years [n=451]; 40-55 years [n=457]; >55 [n=140]) or placebo (N=718; 18-39 years [n=306]; 40-55 years [n=310]; >55 [n=102]). The final SDS, WHO-5, and VAS-PI overall pain change from baseline for the total population were significantly greater in the DVS vs the placebo group ($P < 0.001$). Mean differences (adjusted ANCOVA) from placebo in women were: SDS: 18-39: -2.1, 40-55: -2.1, >55: -3.2; WHO-5: 18-39: +1.1, 40-55: +1.8, >55: +3.3; VAS-PI 18-39: -1.4, 40-55: -5.2, >55: -9.1. In men, results were consistent across age groups studied (SDS: 18-39: -2.9, 40-55: -3.4, >55: +2.6; WHO-5: 18-39: +1.5, 40-55: +2.4, >55: -0.3; VAS-PI 18-39: -3.0, 40-55: -7.7, >55: +2.0).

Conclusions: DVS improves functional outcomes and pain symptoms in depressed men and women across the age groups studied.

P0242

Depression in coronary heart disease

A. Stetkiewicz¹, A. Goch², A. Borkowska¹. ¹Department of Medical Psychology Medical University of Lodz, Lodz, Poland ²Chair of Cardiology and Cardiosurgery Medical University of Lodz, Lodz, Poland

Background and Aims: Current studies on Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) show significant relationship with depression, which play important role in the course and clinical pictures of the illness. Depression is connected with worse course and more pessimistic prognosis in patients with CHD.

This study is expected to lead to better understanding the etiopathogenesis of CHD and its connections with depression and to create an efficient treatment programs in these disturbances.

Methods: Two methods estimating intensification of depressive symptoms were used in this study; Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) and Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS)

Results: To explore the connection between depression and CHD the investigation has been conducted in a group of 111 patients with different course of CHD. The age of the group was 41-65 years (mean = 55; SD = 5,6).

The results of the study indicated the sub clinical state of depression in the whole investigated group. The highest values of BDI and HDRS were noticed in women as well as of men and women with disability pension or in pensioners.

Conclusions: We conclude that women with CHD have higher level of depression and the active employment status has protective influence on the mood.

P0243

Depression and the competence for selection, optimisation and compensation (SOC)

G. Stoppe. University Psychiatric Hospital, Basel, Switzerland

Background: The meta theory of selection, optimisation and compensation is a concept of successful coping and especially "successful" aging (1,2). Since depression is the most prevalent psychiatric disorder in old age, we wanted to know whether depression is associated with impairment of SOC-competence on a state or trait basis.

Method: In a pilot study n=50 inpatients took part after informed consent. They were between 21 and 73years old and suffered from a depressive syndrome (F32, F43.2, F33, F43.1, F31, F41.2). Patients with organic and/or psychotic underlying condition were excluded.

We applied a standardised scale, developed by Freund & Baltes (3). Together with standard instruments (MADRS, GDS) at the beginning and the end of inpatient treatment. For this study, data from a representative German study (ALLEE) served as control.

Results: As to be expected, SOC-competence was significantly lower compared to normal values in the depressed state. After remission however, there were no differences left. There were also no significant differences found when comparing a group of younger (<50y) and a group of older (>50y) patients.

Conclusion: We draw the preliminary conclusion that impairments in SOC competence seem to be no trait marker for depression at any age. Further study should test whether there are differences in various subtypes of depression (e.g. early versus late onset, double depression.....).

P0244

Chaotic neural response reflecting stroop incongruent task is related to serum Cortisol levels in patients with unipolar depression

M. Susta¹, P. Bob¹, J. Pavlat¹, T. Zima², H. Benakova², J. Raboch¹. ¹Department of Psychiatry, First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic ²Department of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Diagnostics, First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Background and Aims: According to recent findings detecting a cognitive conflict is related to activation of anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) and central autonomic network. Several recent findings also suggest the hypothesis that the cognitive conflict is related to specific nonlinear chaotic changes of the neural signal. This conflict related activation elicits autonomic responses which can be assessed by psychophysiological measures such as heart rate variability calculated as beat to beat R-R intervals (RRI).

Method: The present study used Stroop word-colour test as an experimental approach to psychophysiological study of cognitive conflict in connection with RRI measurement, assessment of serum cortisol and calculation of largest Lyapunov exponents in nonlinear data analysis of RRI time series in 32 patients with unipolar depression.

Result: Significant correlation -0.43 ($p < 0.01$) between largest Lyapunov exponents during conflicting Stroop task and serum cortisol levels has been found.

Conclusion: The study indicates that a defect of neural inhibition during conflicting Stroop task is closely related to decreased serum cortisol levels which probably reflect defense psychological mechanisms.

P0245

Depressive disorders and herpes simplex virus infection

G. Taldibaeva¹, L. Bardenshteyn², M. Gomberg¹, I. Shcherbakova². ¹Central Research Institute for Skin and Venereal Diseases, Moscow, Russia ²Department of Psychiatry and Narcology, Moscow State University of Medicine and Dentistry, Moscow, Russia

Introduction: The impact of HSV infection on psychiatric status of patients correlates with the disease nature and duration. Recurrent genital herpes can have a major impact on sufferers' sex lives. HSV recurrences are often accompanied by anxiety and depression, up to suicidal attempts.

Purpose of this study is to investigate clinical typology of depressive disorders of HSV patients.

Materials and Methods: The clinical structure of the depressive disorders was estimated in 44 outpatients (26 men and 18 women, mean age - 31,2) with frequent genital HSV recurrences (>6 per year). Depressive disorders were diagnosed with a help of psychopathological method and the following psychometric scales: HAM-D-21; CGI-S and SOFAS. The normal values for each scale are <7, >80 and ?2 respectively.

Results: Our screening data revealed depressive disorders in 32 of 44 patients. According to ICD-10 classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders, recurrent depressive disorder, current episode mild [F33.0] was revealed in 15 patients (34,1%); recurrent depressive disorder, current episode moderate [F33.1] in 11 cases (25,0%) and dysthymia [F34.1] in 6 patients (13,6%).

Conclusion: These results testified that patients with genital herpes need psychiatric consultation. If an affective disorder is revealed a combined therapy should include both specific antiviral treatment and antidepressant therapy: Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) or Serotonin-Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitors (SNRIs).

P0246

The evidence base of complementary and alternative therapies in depression

A.F. Thachil, R. Mohan, D. Bhugra. *Section of Cultural Psychiatry, Health Service and Population Research Department, PO: 25, David Goldberg Centre, Institute of Psychiatry, DeCrespigny Park, London, UK*

Background: Depression is one of the leading indications for using Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM). This paper reviews the evidence of efficacy of different types of CAM in depression with the aim of identifying the highest level of evidence for each approach.

Methods: We conducted literature searches restricted to the English language for studies on CAM as monotherapy in depression. All papers were reviewed by two researchers and the evidence was ranked according to a widely referenced hierarchy of evidence. Studies that addressed depressive states outside ICD and DSM based diagnoses of depressive disorders were excluded to ensure homogeneity.

Results: 19 papers formed the final review. We found Grade 1 evidence on the use of St. John's wort, Tryptophan/ 5-Hydroxytryptophan, S-adenosyl methionine, Folate, Inositol, Acupuncture and Exercise in Depressive disorders, none of which was conclusively positive. We found RCTs at the Grade 2 level on the use of Saffron (Herbal medicine), Complex Homoeopathy and Relaxation training in Depressive disorders, all of which showed inconclusive results. Other RCTs yielded unequivocally negative results. Studies below this level yielded inconclusive or negative results.

Limitations: Searches were restricted to the English language. Our list of CAM approaches may not have been comprehensive. We excluded studies on the use of CAM as adjunctive treatment and aimed to identify only the highest level of evidence.

Conclusions: None of the CAM studies show evidence of efficacy in depression according to the hierarchy of evidence.

P0247

Depression as consequence of war actions in Serbia in 1999

S.K. Tokovic¹, A.N. Ilankovic³, T.L. Lakovic³, B.N. Bokan¹, I.N. Milincic², V.A. Milatovic Jezdic¹. ¹Primary Health Care

Center, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro ²Health Institute, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro ³Health College, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro

Aim of study: Our investigation is an prospective analysis of group of patients treated in Primary Health Care Center "Savski venac", department of neuropsychiatry in Belgrade, Serbia. Thru the time period of 8 years we analyzed reactions connected with exposing to stress events which are consequence of war actions in Serbia in 1999, especially worsening of symptoms of depression until 2007 in patients with no history of mental illness.

Methods: Research included 100 patients from Belgrade, Serbia, average age group of 50 years and approximate equal number of male and female sex. They are divided in two groups in dependence of level of education. For examination we used: (1) original question mark – questions about reactions which frequently have people exposed to very stressful events, and (2) Hamilton Depressive Scale (HAMD)

Results: (1) Immediately after war actions in both groups are observed elements of PTSD; (2) in both groups during the time we have occurrence of depression, anxiety, raise of irritability, impulsivity, appearance of aggressiveness, suicidal tendencies, abuse of psychoactive products and alcohol with disorder of interpersonal relationships, disappointment in institutions of state and society ; (3) in 2007 are discovered significant increase of depressive score (HAMD) at 45% of tested patients without significant distinction between groups.

Conclusion: Stress events as consequence of war 1999 is the reason of appearance and worsening symptoms of depression thru the time period of 8 years.

P0248

Dinamic electrophysiological parameters in the depressive patients with the concomitant heart pathology

B.D. Tsygankov, Y.F. Sakhno, N.M. Barysheva. *Moscow State University of Medicine and Dentistry, Department of Psychiatry, Moscow, Russia*

The results of a clinical and epidemiological trial "Compass", concerning the depressions among the patients of general internal hospital, performed in 2002-2003 in 35 cities of Russia, showed that the diagnosis of depressive disorders in patients with cardiovascular disease is made in more than a half observations; moreover, the highest value is observed in the cases of chronic heart failure (61% of patients) and of the arterial hypertension (52%).

In this connection the special interest belongs to the detection of early signs of myocardial ischemia in the patients with depressive disorders by means of the new screening device "CardioVisor 06c" for the early detection of myocardial ischemia by the electrocardiogram at rest (Sula A.S., Ryabykina G.V., 2003). The world counterpart of this device is known as "HeartView 6S". This device is built upon the new technology of calculation and three-dimensional visualization of low-amplitude scattering of standard ECG-signal from the extremities. 31 patients (24 females and 7 males) from 18 to 55 years old, undergoing the medical treatment with the diagnosis of depressive disorder, were included in the study. The selection criteria of patients for this investigation were following: the presence of cardiovascular complaints or the cardiological diagnosis (essential or symptomatic arterial hypertension, mitral valve prolapse, vasomotor dyscrasia). The dynamic observation revealed, with the improving mental status in most patients, the relationship between the severity of