

EPP0007

Adverse childhood experience referring to parental relationship is associated with the risk of alcohol dependence and with COMT Val158Met polymorphism, but out of gene-environment interactions

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2022.348

Introduction: Gene-environment interactions (GxE) are considered to make a substantial impact on the risk of alcohol dependence (AD).

Objectives: The aim of the study: to test the associations between the functional polymorphism Val158Met (rs6265) in the catechol-O-methyl transferase (COMT) gene, affecting dopamine neurotransmission, and adverse childhood experiences (ACE) and their GxE interactions with AD risk.

Methods: The study included 149 AD inpatients (mean age 29.9 (SD=3.91), 16.1% females) and 201 healthy volunteers (23.3 (2.48), 30.1% females). The Adverse Childhood Experiences International Questionnaire (ACE-IQ) was used for assessing ACE. COMT Val158Met polymorphism was detected by RT-PCR.

Results: First, COMT Val158Met polymorphism was associated only with adverse childhood experience referring to parental relationship (ACE-IQ), but differently in two groups. Healthy minor Met158 carriers have lower scores on the subscale "relationship with parents/guardians" (P) ($p=0.025$) and "physical neglect" (PN) ($p=0.059$) vs. homozygous Val158 carriers. However, AD patients - Met158carriers have a tendency to a higher score on the subscale "one or no parents, parental separation or divorce" (PSD) ($p=0.078$). Then logistic regression revealed associations of these ACE scores with increased AD risk: P ($p=0.001$, OR=1.186, 95%CI [1.069-1.315]), PN ($p=0.024$, OR=1.254, 95%CI [1.030-1.526]), and PSD ($p=0.016$, OR=1.499, 95%CI [1.080-2.082]). No associations of COMT Val158Met alone or in interactions with these ACE-IQ scores with the AD risk were found.

Conclusions: Adverse childhood experience referring to parental relationship is associated with alcohol dependence risk and separately with COMT Val158Met, but no clear interactions in frame of GxE has been supported.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: Alcohol dependence; GxE interaction

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Internet gaming disorder, aggression and psychological distress in young adults

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2022.349

Introduction: Internet gaming has become a topic of interest since it has positive but also negative effects.

Objectives: To explore the relationship between internet gaming, aggression and psychological distress in young adults.

Methods: 229 Portuguese subjects (55.5% females), with a mean age of 21.13 years old ($SD = 2.075$, range: 18-29) filled in the Internet Gaming Disorder Scale-Short Form, the Buss-Perry Aggression Questionnaire, and the Depression, Anxiety and Stress Scales-21.

Results: The total score of internet gaming was of 15.90 ($SD=6.32$), 79.9% ($n=183$) of the sample used to play videogames and 24.5% ($n=56$) spent more than ten hours playing a week. Internet gaming was correlated with physical aggression ($r=.23^{**}$), anger ($r=.31^{**}$) and hostility ($r=.35^{**}$); and with depression ($r=.36^{**}$), anxiety ($r=.28^{**}$), and stress ($r=.31^{**}$). A Mann Whitney U test revealed significant differences in internet gaming disorder levels of males ($Md=130.75$, $n=102$) and females ($Md=102.35$, $n=127$), $U=4871.000$ $z=-3.232$, $p=.001$, $r=4.49$.

Conclusions: Internet gaming disorder is associated with aggression and psychological distress, and males presented higher internet gaming disorder levels. Future studies are needed to explore the bidirectional relationships between gaming disorder, aggression and psychological distress.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: internet gaming disorder; aggressiveness; young adults; psychological distress

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Individual factors associated with workaholism among Tunisian engineers

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2022.350

Introduction: Globalization and increased competition in the engineering profession induce to work longer and harder, which predisposes to workaholism or work addiction. Identifying individual factors associated with workaholism could help to maintain the mental health at work.