P01-35 - **FATIGUE IN FEMALE PATIENTS WITH MAJOR DEPRESSION: THE EFFECT OF AGE AT ONSET**

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Objectives: This study aimed to investigate the independent correlation of the severity of fatigue in female patients with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) with age at illness onset.

Methods: We studied 70 female patients (34 inpatients), aged 23-65 years (mean 48.2±10.6 years), with MDD as assessed with the M.I.N.I. version 5.0.0. All patients were currently in a Major Depressive Episode, with a 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS) score ≥17, and free of major fatigue-associated conditions. Reported fatigue was assessed with the 14-item Fatigue Questionnaire (FQ). Pearson's (r) or Spearman's (rho) correlations between FQ, age, inpatient status, HDRS and age at onset were calculated. A multiple regression analysis was then performed, with FQ as the dependent variable.

Results: The FQ score was significantly correlated with HDRS ($r=0.406$, $p< 0.001$) and age at onset ($r=-0.281$, $p=0.02$). In the multiple regression model, HDRS and age at onset turned out as significant independent predictors of the FQ score, with standardised beta coefficients of 0.419 ($p< 0.001$) and -0.3 ($p=0.006$), respectively ($R^2=0.255$).

Conclusions: The severity of fatigue in female patients with major depression is independently correlated with earlier age at illness onset.

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