

strategies that are underlying etiological factor of eating disorders. Sixteen patients underwent a psychological diagnostic focused on work with emotions. In the experimental part, patients were exposed to their own image through the mirror, during which were supposed to regulate their emotions, according to specific instructions. While patients were looking into the mirror, we monitored psychophysiological activity. Latest results based on the data processing of averages excitation of skin conductance describe the course of the experiment as we expected. Calming phases alternated with mirror exposure were clearly noticeable and consistent during changes in skin conductance and varies almost significantly [$F(3,6) = 2.5, P = 0.068, \eta^2 = 0.22$], which supports the suitability of the selected eliciting material. The difference between mirror exposures with instructions on how to regulate emotions and without them is not statistically significant, but the continuance of the skin conductance describes the phases of the experiment consistently. The most striking response was detected at the first exposure to the mirror, which may suggest a lack of internal resources to regulate such an important stimulus as their own body. The results indicate that exposure to mirror is a negative emotional stimulus, with whom the patient can hardly cope.

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Prospective predictors of onset, maintenance and cessation of self-injurious behavior during adolescence

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Introduction Epidemiological studies indicate a high prevalence of self-injurious behavior in adolescents in the general population. So far, there are only very few studies on the course of self-injurious behavior in adolescents and young adults.

Objectives The aim of the present population-based study was the analysis of prospective predictors of onset, maintenance and cessation self-injurious behavior in adolescents.

Methods A representative sample of the normal population of adolescents from Germany (initial sample: $n = 1444$; mean age = 14.7, $SD = 0.80$, 52% female adolescents) was studied over a two years period on 4 consecutive points of measurement in the context of the European school-based intervention study SEYLE.

Results There was a high remission rate (70.4%) of self-injurious behaviors at 24-month follow-up investigation. However, there was a substantial rate (29.6%) of adolescents who continued the self-injurious behavior, as well as a group of “new starters”. Self-injurious behavior during the baseline examination proved to be the strongest predictor of self-injurious behavior 2 years later. The extent of depressive symptoms and quality of peer relationships were significantly associated with maintaining self-injurious behavior two years later. Furthermore continued self-injurious behavior over the first 12-month was highly associated with suicide plans/suicide attempts at 24-month follow-up investigation.

Conclusions While both, onset and maintenance of SIB are prospectively associated with an increased risk for suicidal behaviour in late adolescence, SIB cessation significantly reduces the risk for later suicidal behaviour.

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Children with opsoclonus myoclonus syndrome: Types of psychological development

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Introduction Opsoclonus myoclonus syndrome (OMS) in childhood still remains unexplored from the perspective of clinical psychology.

Objectives and aims The research was aimed at defining types of psychological development in the group of children with OMS. The study included 18 children between ages 2 years 4 months and 9 years with OMS (8 boys, 10 girls).

Methods The following methods were used: analysis of patient's development and medical record, psychological interview with parents, neurological state assessment and pathopsychological assessment.

Results Patients were divided into three groups according to cognitive development level:

- group with normal intelligence level ($n = 4$);
- group with developmental delay ($n = 11$);
- group with intellectual disability in different forms ($n = 3$).

Several children in group 1 ($n = 3$) and in group 2 ($n = 4$) expressed neurotic behavior with increased levels of anxiety and fear of trying unusual actions during psychological assessment. Children with delay in psychoverbal development ($n = 7$) and with developmental delay ($n = 1$) expressed psychopathy-like states with verbal aggression and had difficulties controlling their emotions. In some cases ($n = 2$), the psychological state of the patient was defined as borderline state with emotional instability, especially in mother–child interaction.

Conclusion Psychological features of children with OMS indicate heterogeneity of their development types that implies different prognosis and developmental dynamics for each type. The results point out the necessity of detailed psychological examination aimed at correlation of psychological help to children with OMS and their families with their psychological state.

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Dog assisted therapy for teenagers with emotional and behavioural issues: A multicentre study

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