

situations, etc.) is common in psychiatric pathologies in which level of stress experienced exceeds normal capacity of the person, favoring the appearance of dissociative or excision mechanisms. A common mistake is to pathologize them and try to eliminate them. **Objectives:** The objective of this paper is to study trauma and defense mechanisms involved, in order to carry out a better approach.

Methods: A bibliographic search was performed from different database (Pubmed, TripDatabase) about trauma, mechanisms involved and the construction of identity.

Results: We know neural pathways mature asymmetrically in evolutionary development (functions related to attention, concentration and executive function having special importance) and thus, traumas occurred in moments of greatest vulnerability such as early childhood, can damage and interfere with the correct integration of neural processes, producing disproportionate and unnecessarily maintained alert responses (common basis for many pathologies such as borderline personality disorder or traumatic psychosis). In response to this, reactive mechanisms are produced (such as dissociation or cleavage) that are not necessarily pathological and therefore, we should not always intervene by eliminating them because they often function as a protective factor, allowing to preserve functioning and favoring recovery.

Conclusions: In conclusion, we need a better understanding of mechanisms involved in trauma, executive function and the alarm system beyond anxiety reactions, trying to understand the function of symptom without eliminating it, but evaluating whether there are healthier alternatives can be promoted for the complete recovery of the patient.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: traumatic factors; dissociation; excision mechanism; evolutionary development

EPV0354

Parenting with mental illness among patients presenting to a teaching hospital in Sri Lanka: Challenges and perceived care needs

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Introduction: Parenting with mental illness is associated with parenting difficulties and increased mental health problems in children. Family focused interventions improve child outcomes by 40%. However, such services are not available at present in Sri Lanka.

Objectives: To assess the challenges faced and perceived needs of parents with mental illness in Sri Lanka.

Methods: A cross sectional descriptive study was carried out in the adult psychiatry follow-up clinics in a Teaching Hospital in Sri Lanka. A specifically designed questionnaire was used to collect socio-demographic details, difficulties with parenting and perceived care needs.

Results: Of 385 parents, 67.3% believed their mental illness impacted their parenting. Perceived impact on parenting was

higher in younger parents ($p < 0.01$), when the children were younger ($p < 0.01$), had more children under 5 years ($p < 0.01$) and when there was no social support ($p < 0.01$). 67.8% of parents believed their illness impacted their children, with higher impact perceived in parents with children less than 5 years of age ($p < 0.05$) and those with no social support ($p < 0.01$). Although 36.4% had concerns about their children's emotions or behaviour, only 16.4% were willing to discuss these with their doctor. The parental concerns were significantly higher where the parent was employed ($p < 0.01$), had a longer duration of illness ($p < 0.01$) and when the youngest child was more than 12 years ($p < 0.01$)

Conclusions: Mental illness in parents had a substantial impact on parenting and their children but professionals help was rarely sought. Services aimed at the specific needs of these parents should be developed.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: parenting with mental illness; challenges; impact

EPV0357

The application of a stress reduction intervention in patients with chronic diseases in Greece

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Introduction: This is the presentation of a postdoc research protocol under the supervision of University of Peloponnese, regarding the application of a program for stress reduction. The intervention consisted of a psychoeducational session explaining the stress effect in the brain and the way that relaxation breathing is working, a training session on relaxation breathing and 2 more sessions, one with relaxation breathing and one with trigger points acupressure in the back of the patients.

Objectives: The objective of the study was to test the effectiveness of relaxations techniques in patients with chronic diseases in a Greek General Hospital.

Methods: Out of 335 participants, 153 were found to have high stress levels in the DASS scale and the stress VAS scale that was used for the intervention. 151 of them (49(32, 5%) males), agreed to participate in the intervention with relaxation breathing and 99 in the acupressure session. Diagnosis of the participants were: anxiety disorder (18.5%), Thalassaemia Major(31.1%), Crohn (26.5%), Kidney failure (9.9%) and major depression (13.9%). Analysis was performed with SPSS 24.

Results: The results in DASS stress scale revealed that 54.3 % of the sample had very severe and 24.3% severe stress levels while 58.9% had very severe anxiety levels in DASS anxiety scale. Pair sample t test show statistically significant differences before and after the application of breathing relaxation $t_{150}=24.725$ $p=0.001$, as well in the application of acupressure $t_{98}=15.901$ $p=0.001$.

Conclusions: According to the results of the present intervention, relaxation techniques can be very helpful as complimentary treatments for patients with chronic diseases