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Abstract

Objective: This study tried to evaluate the usefulness and direction of the development of post-traumatic assessment and intervention based on the opinions from pediatrics and disaster and trauma-related experts using the Delphi survey technique.

Methods: In-depth individual interview served as pre-survey: followed by Delphi primary and secondary survey. Specialists in child and adolescent mental health, disaster psychological support professionals, and related practitioners with the experience in the area of the disaster that has occurred in Korea participated and completed a set of questionnaires and participated in focus group interview and in-depth individual interview on post-traumatic assessment and intervention.

Results: We found that the following issues have a great impact on the interventions after disasters: proper time of the initial interview in an event of a disaster, assessment notices, aged assessment services, mandatory enforcement measures, scale screening and treatment intervention elements, symptoms degree classification, intervention standardization, levelled program, care unit environments, and operation plans.

Conclusion: This study proposed effective mental health intervention measures and provided the implications on developing the evaluation treatment protocol after disasters.

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PS265

Augmenting Pharmacotherapy-resistant Post-traumatic Stress Disorder with Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Therapy

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Abstract

Background: Both trauma-focused cognitive behavior therapy and antidepressant medication are regarded as the first line treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). However, little is known about sequential or combined efficacy of these two different treatment options. This prospective study examined the add-on efficacy of eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR) therapy among adult civilians with PTSD who continued to be symptomatic after antidepressant treatment.

Methods: Adult patients with PTSD at a specialized trauma clinic who received treatment doses of antidepressants for more than 12 weeks were recruited; definition of symptomatic PTSD was a total score > 40 on the Clinician-administered PTSD Scale (CAPS). The CAPS and the global improvement from Clinical Global Impression (CGI) were rated prior to EMDR, after termination and six months follow-up.

Results: A total of 15 patients underwent an average of six sessions of EMDR and 7 (47%) of 15 no longer met the criteria for PTSD and 10 (67%) were given status of very much or much improved. The CAPS scores and significantly decreased after EMDR therapy (paired t = 7.38, df = 14, p < .0001).

Conclusion: These results indicate that EMDR or trauma-focused CBT can be successfully added to those who failed to improve after initial pharmacotherapy for PTSD. Further studies are needed to explore the best sequence or components of therapies in the treatment of PTSD.

Keywords: post-traumatic stress disorder, pharmacotherapy, CBT, EMDR

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PS266

North Korean female refugees’ quality of life: Influence of Physical Health, PTSD, and Social Support

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the hypothesized mediation model describing the pathways of how female North Korean refugees’ perceived physical and mental health condition (PTSD symptoms) would be associated with their quality of life and if social support would mediate the association between North Korean refugees’ physical and mental health and quality of life. There have been many studies addressing North Korean refugees’ trauma, but there is a sparse collection of research examining North Korean refugees’ quality of life.
Specifically, we examined factors influencing female North Korean refugees’ quality of life. The sample was comprised of 172 female North Korean refugees. Participants completed the checklist for Health Condition, the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Checklist-civilian version (PLC-C; Weathers et al., 1993), the Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support, Zimet et al., 1988), and the Korean version of Short-Form 8-Item Health Survey (SF-8., Han et al., 2004).

The Structural Equation Model confirmed the hypothesized mediation model. The measurement model showed a good fit to the data, and all factor loadings were significant (p<.001). The structural model showed a good fit to the data, with the following indices: χ²(38)= 86.184, CFI=.97 NFI=.95, TLI=.96, RMSEA=.08(90% CI:.06,.10). We tested if social support would fully or partially mediate the association between physical and mental health and quality of life, comparing the proposed model with alternative models, confirming the full mediation of the proposed mediation model.

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PS267
FACTORS THAT EFFECT THE FREQUENCY OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) IN MILITARY STAFF WHO PARTICIPATES IN MARTIAL OPERATIONS
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Abstract
Introduction: The aim of this study is to determine the prevalence of PTSD in a special population who participates in martial operations for Turkish Army Forces (TAF) and to detect several factors that play a role in PTSD development.

Materials And Methods: The universe of the study is consisted of professional soldiers who participates in martial operations for TAF (n=1150). There are war and/or war-associated traumatic experiences in all individuals of population. 230 volunteers who accept to participate in the study are included to the study by Systematic Sample Selection. Sociodemographic Data Form, Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis I Disorders: SCID I) and Clinical-Administered PTSD Scale: CAPS) are used for the study. The obtained data was analysed by SPSS package program.

Results: No psychiatric diagnosis was detected in 205 (%89,1) of all volunteers. Psychiatric diagnoses have been ranged as the following: 13 (%5,7) PTSD, 2 (%0,9) Major Depressive Disorder, 2 (%0,9) Alcohol Abuse, 1 (%0,4) Panic Disorder, 2 (%0,9) Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, 1 (%0,4) Generalized Anxiety Disorder and 4 (%1,7) Adjustment Disorder. We found that there was no association between PTSD diagnosis and marital status, educational status, the use of alcohol, psychosocial environmental issues and physical diseases of volunteers and that there was a statistically significant association between PTSD diagnosis and previous psychiatric treatment and tobacco use (p<0,05).

Discussion: Because of inability to be follow up of PTSD frequency and inability to be taken into treatment process, we predict that there might be considerably high percentages of chronic PTSD cases in TAF. This may decrease the success rate of ongoing operational tasks and cause an exponential increase of casualties in case of possible battle. We concluded that regular PTSD frequency, follow up and treatment studies in TAF may be important in terms of possible casualties calculations.

SUICIDE: PS268 – PS282

PS268
Relationship between cytokines and dopamine transporter availability in patients with carbon monoxide poisoning
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Abstract
Previous studies have demonstrated that dopamine transporter (DAT) decreased in patients with carbon monoxide poisoning (COP). However, the underlying mechanism is unclear. COP may cause neuropsychiatric symptoms, which result from a demyelinating leukoencephalopathy caused by the injury or destruction of myelin and/or oligodendroglia in the cerebral white matter. The aim of this study was to examine the relationship between DAT and cytokines in patient with COP.

Thirty-three patients with COP and 33 age- sex-matched healthy controls (HCs) were recruited. Each subject underwent single photon emission computed tomography with [99mTc] TRODAT-1 to measure DAT availability. Cytokines included the pro-inflammatory cytokine tumor necrosis factor-α(TNF-α) and the anti-inflammatory cytokine interleukin-10 (IL-10), which was measured using an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

The total striatal DAT was significantly lower in COP than HCs (3.01±0.73 vs. 2.41±0.62, t=3.587, p=0.001). In a sub-analysis showed that both sides of DAT were decreased. TNF-α was significantly lower in COP than HCs (4.63±6.79 vs. 1.08±0.36, t=2.714, p=0.012), whereas IL-10 was not different in both groups (4.31±3.31 vs. 4.93±1.10, t=1.000, p=0.321). Linear regression analysis showed that IL-10 was well correlated with the decreased DAT in HCs but not in COP (HCs: β=0.72, p=0.000; COP: β=0.22, p=0.247).

Our results implicate that the disruption of association of DAT and IL-10, which was found in HCs, might be an important factor underpinning the decreased DAT.

PS269
Epidemiology of Completed Suicide in Different Blood Alcohol Concentration: a Nationwide Autopsy-based Study
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Abstract
Aims: The aim of the study was to assess the prevalence and the risk factor associated with the different blood alcohol concentration among suicide decedents.

Methods: Data from a nationwide autopsy between May 2014 and November 2014 were collected in Korea. A total of 717 suicide decedents were classified into the three groups as blood alcohol concentration at the time of the suicide attempt: the no alcohol (NA) group (BAC<0.01 %); no intoxication (NI) group (0.01≤BAC<0.08%); intoxication (I) group (BAC≥0.08%) and were analyzed risk factors for suicide among the three groups using multinomial logistic regression analyses.

Results: The results showed that suicide decedents were more likely to attempt suicide in the I group if they had made previous suicide attempt (OR=2.090, p=0.004) or didn’t have a