

EPP0196

An analysis of the prevalence and impact of obsessive-compulsive personality disorder on the course of obsessive-compulsive disorder

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Introduction: Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is a disorder diagnosed on the basis of the presence of obsessions (persistently recurring, intrusive thoughts, images, impulses) and compulsions (compulsive and transiently satisfying actions performed in response to obsessions). A separate clinical phenomenon in the broadly understood anankastic spectrum is obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCPD). OCPD is characterized by scrupulousness, over-normative morality, perfectionism and an inability to make concessions in terms of cooperation. It is assumed that the incidence of OCPD in the course of OCD is 25-32% and it is a report with an unfavorable course and a more difficult therapeutic prognosis. It also means an early onset of OCD with a greater intensity of compulsions and a predominance of symptoms related to the sphere of purity, symmetry and gathering.

Objectives: The main aims of the study were as follows:

1. To assess the prevalence of OCPD in OCD patients.
2. To compare both groups of patients for the severity, level of insight, aggression, impulsiveness and affective symptoms.
3. To verify whether the presence of OCPD depend on factors such as age, gender, treatment duration and delay in starting treatment.

Methods: The study was conducted in a group of 78 patients diagnosed with and treated for OCD. The patients were divided into two groups: patients with OCD and OCPD (group 1, n=43) and patients with OCD without OCPD (group 2, n=35). The groups were subsequently compared for the severity of anankastic symptoms, the level of insight, aggression, impulsiveness and its components and affective symptoms (depression, mania). The following tools were used for the diagnosis: Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale (Y-BOCS), Hamilton Depression-Rating Scale (HDRS), Young Mania Rating Scale (YMRS), Buss-Perry Aggression Questionnaire (BPAQ), Barratt Impulsiveness Scale (BIS-11), Brown Assessment of Beliefs Scale (BABS) and DSM 5 criteria for OCPD.

Results: Our results confirmed that OCPD is common in OCD and occurred in 55,12% of patients with OCD (n=43; m=21; f=22). The study shows that the presence of OCPD in the course of OCD negatively affects the severity of obsessive-compulsive symptoms, the level of insight, the level of aggression and impulsiveness, and affective disorders. Patients with OCPD obtained higher scores on the YBOCS, BABS, HDRS, and YMRS scales compared to patients with OCD without OCPD. The occurrence of OCPD in the study group did not depend on gender, duration of OCD treatment, or delay in starting it.

Conclusions: The occurrence of OCPD is common in OCD and can cause delay of treatment, worse course, greater intensity of egosyntonic symptoms, and thus worse insight. The presence of

OCPD can lead to more hostility and more affective disorders. Screening for OCPD in patients with OCD should be an integral part of an OCD diagnostic process.

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How do emotion regulation strategies influence the way personality affects obsessive-compulsive symptoms?

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Introduction: Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is a chronic disabling condition, with considerable lifetime prevalence. There are interindividual differences regarding personality dimensions and how they affect obsessive-compulsive (OC) symptomatology. Furthermore, there is a connection between OC symptoms and the use of maladaptive emotion regulation strategies (expressive suppression) instead of using more cognitive reappraisal.

Objectives: Explore the relationship between personality, emotion regulation strategies and OC symptoms by testing a path analytic model in a sample of healthy participants and in a sample of OCD patients.

Methods: Two samples of participants were utilized. Sample 1 consists of 787 healthy participants from the general Portuguese population. Sample 2 is composed of 33 OCD patients and 32 Healthy Controls (HC). Participants completed different scales: Emotion Regulation Questionnaire (ERQ), Neuroticism-Extraversion-Openness Five-Factor Inventory (NEO-FFI) and Obsessive-Compulsive Inventory-Revised (OCI-R), through online surveys (sample 1) or a clinical interview (sample 2). These questionnaires were then analyzed with a path-analytic approach.

Results: In sample 2, we found significant differences between OCD patients and HC in every OCI-R subscale, except Hoarding and Neutralizing. In the NEO-FFI, OCD patients scored higher on Neuroticism and lower on Extraversion. No significant differences were found regarding the ERQ. Relatively to sample 1: path analysis results showed that 13,4% of the variance of OC symptoms was explained by the best-fitting model. Only Neuroticism and Extraversion were directly associated with higher OCI-R Total scores, whereas Agreeableness predicted less OC symptoms. The use of Expressive Suppression was associated with more OC symptomatology, but no significant connection was found with Cognitive Reappraisal. Regarding sample 2, no model was found, showing no modifying effect of emotion regulation strategies on OC Symptoms.

Conclusions: There is a deep-rooted interconnection between personality and emotion regulation regarding OC symptomatology in a sample of healthy participants but no effect of emotion regulation was seen regarding OCD patients.