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## RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EATING DISORDERS AND PERSONALITY DISORDERS IN ADOLESCENTS

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Introduction: Several research studies have investigated Personality Disorder (PD) comorbidity in adult with Eating Disorders (ED), which showed an association between the two types of disorder.

Objective: The aim of this study is to examine the relationships between ED and PD in a sample of adolescents between 14 to 18 years of age.

Method: Sixty-seven adolescents with ED treated in an outpatients setting [23 Anorexia Nervosa (AN), 17 Bulimia Nervosa (BN) and 27 Eating Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (EDNOS) ] were assessed using the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis II Disorders (SCID-II), the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) and the Eating Attitudes Test (EAT).

Results: Overall, 13 (19.4%) of ED patients had one or more PD. Cluster C PDs were the most common specific PDs. No significant difference was found between AN and BN based on the general presence of PDs. EDNOS patients had a lower prevalence of PDs compared to AN and BN patients. ED patients with a PD had an higher BDI rates compared to ED patients without PDs. No significant difference was observed in EAT rates between ED patients with and without PDs.

Conclusions: Cluster C PDs were the most frequent PDs found in ED adolescent patients. The prevalence of PDs is similar in AN and BN patients, whilst EDNOS patients have a lower prevalence of PDs compared to AN and BN patients. ED adolescent patients with current PD comorbidity show higher depression scores.