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A multidisciplinary approach to the treatment of children and adolescents with Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome

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Introduction: Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome (BWS) is a rare and complex congenital disorder characterized by a spectrum of symptoms and somatic findings. The prevalence of classic BWS is 1:26,000 births in Europe, and is equal in both sexes. The causes of the disorder are complex and are related to alterations in the expression of one or more genes in the region of chromosome 11. The heterogeneity of the clinical picture results in a spectrum of clinical features, the most common of which include: excessive growth of one side or certain parts of the body, macroglossia, abdominal wall deficits such as umbilical hernia, hypoglycemia, enlarged abdominal organs and an increased risk of developing certain types of tumors in adulthood.

Objectives: The aim of this article is to highlight the importance of an early multidisciplinary approach in the management of children and adolescents with BWS.

Methods: Using clinical practice and a review of the existing limited literature, we examined the complexity of the disease and the importance of psychiatric, psychotherapeutic, and psychological interventions in the treatment of children and adolescents with rare diseases such as BWS.

Results: According to our clinical practice, a number of uncertain physical symptoms and possible complications may in some children with BWS lead to psychomotor retardation and lack of self-confidence due to the often impaired physical appearance. Affected children and adolescents are more likely to be exposed to abuse at school, show more behavioral and learning difficulties, difficulties in social adjustment, and resultant emotional difficulties. After initial genetic and pediatric treatment and subsequent regular monitoring, it is necessary to pay additional attention to the development of psychological sequelae in order to involve them and their families in psychotherapeutic treatment, and intervene in a timely manner so that they can achieve or maintain psychological stability and functionality. Many adolescent patients with BWS do not have significant somatic difficulties that would require pediatric intervention, but often present with symptoms of mental illness.

Conclusions: Psychological stress in children and adolescents suffering from rare somatic diseases represents a negative experience of an emotional and social nature, which affects the course of the disease and interferes with the treatment. Due to a number of possible physical manifestations and outcomes of such diseases, extensive psychological support and care by child and adolescent psychiatrists and the entire medical team is required. A multidisciplinary approach is crucial in the treatment of these patients and results in improved functionality and quality of life.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0165

ADHD symptoms are associated with bully victimization in non-clinical populations too

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Introduction: Individuals with ADHD are at higher risk of being bullied than individuals without ADHD^{1,2,3} Over the past decades, there has been a shift from a categorical to a dimensional conceptualization of ADHD^{4.} It remains unknown if the association between ADHD and bullying also extends to non-clinical populations.

Objectives: To assess if subclinical ADHD symptoms associates with bully victimization in childhood and adolescence.

Methods: 1557 non-clinical adults completed the 6-item Adult Self-Report Scale Screener (ASRS) and answered questions concerning bully victimization. ADHD and ASD diagnoses served as exclusion criteria. Prevalence rates of bully victimization (defined as bullied ≥twice monthly) were compared at different time periods between those with- and without a positive ASRS-screener (cut-off score ≥4/6) by chi-square tests. Moreover, logistic regression evaluated the association while adjusting for candidate covariates age and sex.

Results: Out of the total sample 1332 individuals (mean age=42, 60% female) scored negative and 217 individuals (mean age=36, 70% female) scored positive on the ASRS-screener while 8 had missing data on age or sex. Prevalence rates of bully victimization comparing those with- and without a positive score were as following; 20% vs 11%, p<.001 at 7-9 years, 26% vs 15%, p<.001 at 10-12 years, 20% vs 13%, p=.005 at 13-15 years and 6% vs 2%, p=.002 at 16-18 years. The statistically significant associations seen in the prevalence comparisons up until working life remained in the logistic regression models.

Conclusions: More pronounced subclinical ADHD symptoms were associated with approximately twice as high prevalence of bully victimization in childhood and adolescence. Thus, ADHD characteristics appear to have serious consequences across the full clinical and non-clinical parts of the spectrum.

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EPV0167

Exploring Early Autism Markers in High-Risk Infants: Implications for Timely Intervention

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Introduction: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental condition characterized by challenges in social

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communication and behaviour. Timely identification of ASD is pivotal for effective intervention. However, significant gaps persist in our understanding of early signs and biomarkers, particularly among infants with older siblings already diagnosed with ASD. Furthermore, factors during the perinatal and neonatal period remain underexplored.

Objectives: This systematic review aims to investigate early autism markers within this specific cohort and assess their potential impact on intervention strategies.

Methods: A thorough search of electronic databases, including PubMed, PsycINFO, and Scopus, was conducted, initially identifying 161 relevant papers related to ASD and resilience published from 2013 to 2023. After excluding studies focused on environmental determinants of resilience in ASD, 75 papers remained. We concentrated on studies examining early identification of autism, especially in infants with older siblings with ASD, biomarker discovery, or predictive factors within this unique population. The search strategy employed a diverse set of keywords encompassing ASD, genetics, neurobiology, and the perinatal period to ensure comprehensive coverage of pertinent studies. Quality assessment of each study followed standardized criteria, and data synthesis utilized a thematic analysis approach.

Results: Our systematic exploration revealed a spectrum of early markers associated with ASD in high-risk infants, spanning behavioural, neurodevelopmental, genetic, and perinatal domains. Recognizing these early indicators offers promise for timely and potent intervention strategies, potentially refining long-term outcomes for children at risk of ASD.

Discussion: The synthesis of existing research in this systematic review underscores the significance of studying early markers within high-risk populations. Early intervention, guided by these markers, holds the potential to enhance the quality of life for at-risk children with ASD and their families. This review contributes to our understanding of the early identification of autism and emphasizes the imperative need for continued research in this critical area.

Conclusions: This systematic review sheds light on the current state of research on early signs and biomarkers of autism in infants with older siblings diagnosed with ASD. The findings carry significant implications for the development of targeted interventions that can be implemented at an earlier stage of development. Future research should further investigate these markers and their potential role in guiding early and effective intervention strategies. Keywords: Autism Spectrum Disorder, early signs, biomarkers,

Keywords: Autism Spectrum Disorder, early signs, biomarkers, infants, older siblings, early intervention, high-risk population.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0168

Food intake restriction in patient with autism spectrum disorder and Moebius syndrome, a strong association. A case report

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Introduction: A 7-year-old male diagnosed with autism spectrum syndrome and moebius syndrome was admitted to the psychiatric inpatient unit for a 3-week history of food restriction

Objectives: To show the importance of exploring symptoms of autism in patients diagnosed with moebius syndrome in order to optimize the intervention of the difficulties that may arise.

Methods: Case report and literature review

Results: This is a patient with a history of Moebius Syndrome, who required trauma surgery for a clubfoot in April 2019. In early childhood he needs early psychomotor care. He has an IQ of 91. A diagnosis of autism was made in 2018 highlighting high difficulty for social interaction and communication, with repetitive patterns of behavior and marked restricted interests. The patient came to the emergency room after 3 weeks of food restriction. His parents explain that about a month ago the patient witnessed one of his classmates having an episode of vomiting. Since then he has been afraid that he might vomit. They explain that he constantly asks about food expirations, needing to ask before each meal if it will sit well in his stomach. He has noticeably decreased the amount of food he eats and is becoming more selective with food. In the last week he has lost 2 kilograms. During the hospitalization we worked with the patient on his fears about intakes, achieving a weight recovery and normalizing his eating habits.

Conclusions: This case points out the association between Moebius syndrome and autism spectrum disorder. In addition, it reflects the importance of early diagnosis, since in this case it was essential to know the patient's tendency to literalism and rigid thinking in order to receive effective treatment to achieve renutrition. Moebius syndrome is a rare congenital disorder with a prevalence of less than 0.05%, characterized by congenital facial paralysis associated with absence of abduction of the eyes due to alterations of the VI and VII cranial nerves. It presents multiple craniocephalic, musculoskeletal, neurological or ophthalmological manifestations. Different studies have found an association between autism spectrum disorder and Moebius syndrome, with comorbidity between 25-40%, varying according to the studies.

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EPV0169

Vortioxetine as an effective drug in the treatment of depression in adolescents with long QT index. A case report

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Introduction: This is a 13-year-old female patient admitted to the psychiatric unit active suicidal ideation.

Objectives: the objective is to show through a clinical case how vortioxetine can be safe in adolescents.

Methods: Case report and literature review