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Background and aims: To assess the prevalence of depressive symptoms among college students and to find out whether sport activity has any influence on decreasing the depression score.

Methods: The authors screened all 664 first year college students. There were 466 females and 178 males. They answered The Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) and questionnaire about their sport activity (non active, recreational and active in sports). For the purpose of the analysis depressive symptoms were defined as a score > 11. We used Chi-square and Mann-Whitney test.

Results: 9,2% of the students have shown significant depressive symptoms. Statistically significant lower score on BDI have had the students who are active in sports compared with the recreational group and in correlation to the group of students not active in sports. In the group of the active ones in sports there are only 5,5% of them with depressive symptoms, while in the group of non active in sports there are 18% of them depressive. In separate analysis we have not found correlation of decreasing depressive symptoms and sport activity among males, but we have found that sport activity has a significant effect among females. Females are statistically more depressed (10, 5%) than males (5%).

Conclusion: Our results have shown moderate values of depression symptoms among college population. More females than males have experienced depressive symptoms. While sport activity have not shown significant influence on the depression among males, it has shown significant influence in reducing the depressive symptoms among females.

P049

Effect of pallidotomy on depression in patients with Parkinson's disease

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Background and aims: The goal of the present paper is to assess whether pallidotomy influences the degree of depression in Parkinson disease patients (PD). The prevalence of depression in PD patients has been reported to range from 45% to 50%. Deep depression is observed in 7% of patients. Previous data suggested that several factors can determine depression in PD patients. It is assumed that psychological factors, neurotransmitter dysfunctions (i.e. dopaminergic, serotonergic and noradrenergic disease), and basal ganglia lesions may lead to depression.

Methods: The emotional state of 30 patients (16 women, 14 men) with PD was examined with depression tests: the Beck Depression Inventory and the Montgomery Asberg Depression Rating Scale twice - three days before and three days after pallidotomy. The age-matched control group was tested twice within a week.

Results: The difference in the degree of depression before and after surgery was significant. Statistically significant difference in the degree of depression between healthy individuals and PD patients before pallidotomy was reported ($p=0,07$). Moreover, the results obtained after pallidotomy in the experimental group did not reveal

any differences with the control group. It was noticed that sex has significantly influenced the degree of depression as measured before and after surgery with both tests.

Conclusion: The results obtained in the study showed that stereotactic pallidotomy reduced depression symptoms in PD patients. This finding is compatible with Lauerbach's model, according to which ablation or deep medial globus pallidus stimulation should inhibit thalamic and cortical activity, thus reducing depression symptoms.

P050

Depression and self-esteem in adolescence: a study of senior high school students in Greece

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Background and aims: The evaluation of depressive symptomatology and self-esteem in high school adolescent students in Greece and the assessment of their relation to demographic variables, school performance and adolescents' activities.

Methods: The CES-D Scale (depressive symptomatology) and the Rosenberg scale (self-esteem) were administered to 713 students (396 girls and 317 boys, age 15-18), of the Athens Metropolitan Area, Senior's High School Grades 1-3. Personal data such as age, sex, school records, family's conditions and time spent per week in school-related (e.g. tutorials) and extracurricular (e.g. sports) activities were collected.

Results: Considering CES-D cut-off score >28, 26,2% of the students (33,7% of females and 16,1% of males) could be considered as having depression. CES-D score was found to be associated to sex and school record (being less for students with a better record). Male students were having higher depression scores as they grew older, while respective scores for females were decreasing; at third grade boys had slightly higher CES-D mean score than girls.

Self-esteem and depressive symptoms were negatively correlated among both boys and girls.

Conclusions: A relatively high number of adolescent students in Greek schools can be considered as having significant depressive symptomatology and low self-esteem. The higher depression score in girls is consistent with the existing literature. The fact that boys have higher depression scores in the last grade of high school may be an indication of the higher pressure for academic achievement imposed by the family on them.

P051

Prophylaxis in bipolar disorder: Implications of a randomised, open lamotrigine-vs-lithium study

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Background and aims: In 2 drug approval studies lamotrigine has been shown to possess prophylactic potentials comparable with lithium in bipolar disorder. However, the generalisability of these results are limited. In 2001, an investigator-driven study was initiated comparing lamotrigine and lithium for prophylaxis aiming at mimicking routine clinical conditions. Data collection is not completed (until

end 2006) albeit recruitment is accomplished. Based on preliminary findings, the focus will be on methodological implications.

Methods: This is an open, multicenter, randomised trial conducted within the Danish University Antidepressant Group. Subjects suffered from bipolar disorder indicating prophylaxis. Exclusion criteria were kept to a minimum. Randomisation took place when clinically appropriate. The primary end-point was the need for additional medication or hospitalization, conditionally that patients were stabilized on monotherapy 6 months after randomisation. Patients were followed up to 6 years after randomisation.

Results: Of the 155 randomised patients, 123 (79%) were recruited at the main center. So far, 25% of the patients were prematurely withdrawn within the first 6 months after randomisation, 25% were withdrawn at 6 months since they were not in monotherapy at this point, 25% have reached the primary end-point and the remaining 25% are still in trial.

Conclusions: The large proportion of patients that needed additional medications even after 6 months indicates that previous long-term studies randomising patients on monotherapies may have limited generalisability. The uneven contribution from the main center and the other centers indicates that multicenter studies may include patients that are selected beyond the selection criteria.

P052

Influences of personality traits on depressive tendency among adolescents in Eastern Taiwan

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Purpose: To investigate whether the depressive tendency of adolescents are associated with certain personality traits in a stratified sample in eastern Taiwan.

Methods: Students who were sampled from 6 junior high and 25 primary schools in a multi-stratified manner were invited to join the study and asked to complete the Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D) and the Junior Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (JEPQ) administered together with other measurements of behavioral problems and life events. Effects of gender and grades on the score of the CES-D and the JEPQ and all its four subscales (N, E, P, and L) were analyzed. Correlation between the CES-D and the JEPQ's subscales were explored.

Results: Data from 3222 participants was analysed. Scores of CES-D and all four subscales (N, E, P, and L) of JEPQ were not influenced by gender. Scores of CES-D of participants from junior high school (grade 7-9) were significantly higher than those from primary schools (grade 4-6) but not similar finding in JEPQ scores. Gender difference was not noted in the low depressive tendency group, but there's more girls (59.2%) than boys (41.8%) in the high depressive group. Participants in the high depressive tendency group had significantly higher scores of N and P subscale, but not E subscale of JEPQ than those in the low depressive tendency group.

Conclusion: Different aspects of personality might be correlated differently to the tendency of depression among adolescents. Whether there's developmental causation warrants further analyses and explorations.

P053

The intensity dependence of auditory ERP components in un-medicated patients with major depression. an analysis of group differences.

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Background: The intensity dependent amplitude change (IDAP) of auditory evoked Event Related Potential (ERP) components has been found to correlate with the level of central serotonergic neurotransmission and to be associated with response to certain antidepressants. However, it is currently unknown whether there is a general abnormality of the IDAP in patients with major depression. Therefore, the purpose of the present study was to compare the IDAP in un-medicated depressive individuals with that of healthy control subjects.

Methods: We report the results of a study evaluating the change of auditory evoked P1, N1, P2 as well as P1/N1 and N1/P2 peak to peak amplitudes in 40 in-patients with major depressive episode prior to antidepressant treatment, and 44 healthy control subjects. Clinical symptoms of depression were assessed by means of standardized psychiatric rating scales (CGI, HDRS, HAMA and BDI).

Results: In multivariate analyses of variance we found no group differences in the intensity dependent increase neither of the P1, N1, and P2 nor of the P1/N1 and N1/P2 peak to peak amplitudes between patients and controls.

Conclusions: Our data revealed no general abnormality of the IDAP in patients with major depression in comparison to healthy control subjects.

P054

Suicidal ideation and depressive disorders in primary care: The role of comorbidity

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Background and objectives: Most suicide victims contact a primary care physician within a month before their death. Over 90% of suicide victims have a diagnosable psychiatric illness, most commonly a mood disorder.

To compare demographic and clinical characteristics of depressed patients with and without a comorbid psychiatric disorder, and subjects without depressive disorders (DD). We hypothesized that depressed patients with a comorbid disorder would be the most impaired group and would have the greatest suicidality.

Methods: 195 patients were evaluated in three primary care centers in Madrid (Spain) using systematic sampling. Patients were assessed using the Spanish version of Prime-PHQ and a Recent Life Changes Checklist. Demographic data and previous psychiatric history were also collected.