

PW01-171 - COPING STRATEGIES IN ADOLESCENTS WITH PSYCHOTIC-LIKE EXPERIENCES

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Coping strategies have been defined as the cognitive-behavioral efforts in continuous change made by a subject in order to manage internal and/or external demands which exceed his/her personal resources (Lazarus & Folkman, 1984). Said coping strategies have been extensively investigated in individuals with symptoms of psychosis-proneness.

Objectives: The main objective of the present study was to compare the coping strategies used by adolescents with and without subclinical psychotic symptoms.

Method: The sample was composed of 1,713 Spanish adolescents, 881 (51.4%) females, with a mean age of 14.7 years (SD = 1.7).

Results: The results showed that the adolescents with subclinical psychotic symptoms used Avoidance-type coping strategies more frequently and Positive-type coping strategies less frequently in comparison to the control group.

Conclusions: These findings indicate a pattern of deficit in the strategies used to cope with stress similar to that of patients with schizophrenia, which is very interesting with a view to establishing lines of intervention within early detection and treatment programs for high-risk individuals aimed at modifying these patterns of deficit in coping with environmental stimuli in these populations.