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EV0911

A Study of empathy in Romanian general nursing students

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Introduction Empathy is of most importance in the medical field. The ability to comprehend and connect with the emotional state of another person is essential for establishing a successful interaction between patients and health care professionals.
Objectives The aim of this study was to assess empathic response in general nursing (GN) students.
Methods The study was conducted between 2015–2016 on 75, sixth-year Romanian GN undergraduates from the Timisoara "Victor Babes" university of medicine and pharmacy. To evaluate the level of empathy, we used the empathy quotient (EQ), a 60-item self-report inventory with 40 questions empathy-related and 20 filler questions.
Results We included in this study 12 (16%) males and 63 (84%) females, with a mean age of 23.48 years (SD = 2.17). Female GN students had significantly higher EQ mean scores than the general female population. Compared to female students, males obtained significantly lower EQ mean scores. There were no significant differences between male and female students regarding age distribution.
Conclusions Female GN students showed greater empathy than their male colleagues, as well as than the general female population. These results support the theory on women's understanding of others mental states, vital to the provision of a worthy nursing care.
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Cognitive emotional regulation in Romanian general medicine students

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Introduction During medical school, students experience significant amounts of stress. Since certain emotion regulatory strategies are known to be maladaptive, the way in which students are capable to regulate their emotions becomes very important, because it can affect their physical and mental welfare.
Objectives The purpose of this study was to assess cognitive emotion regulation strategies in Romanian general medicine (GM) students.
Methods The study was conducted between 2015–2016 on 86 sixth-year Romanian GM undergraduates from the Timisoara "Victor Babes" university of medicine and pharmacy. In order to identify the cognitive emotion regulation strategies (or cognitive coping strategies) that students use after experiencing negative situations or life events we used the Romanian version of the cognitive emotion regulation questionnaire (CERQ).
Results The sample consisted of 30 (34.9%) males and 56 (65.1%) females, with ages ranging between 24 and 31 years (mean age = 24.97 years, SD = 1.74). Compared to female students, males obtained significantly lower mean scores in "umination" (t = -2.84, P = 0.005, 95% CI = -1.64; -0.29), "positive refocusing" (t = -2.09, P = 0.037, 95% CI = -1.42; -0.04) and "catastrophizing" (t = -3.17, P = 0.002, 95% CI = -1.31; -0.3). Both male and female GM students had significantly higher mean scores in "blaming others" than their respectively gender-related general population.
Conclusions Results of this study suggest that GM students, when facing stressful or negative events, are more inclined in using "blaming others" as a coping strategy. Female students seem to be more inclined than males to use "rumination", "catastrophizing" and "positive refocusing" as cognitive coping mechanisms.
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Antipsychotic-induced hyperprolactinemia

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Introduction As antipsychotic agents are increasingly used, many patients are at risk for antipsychotic-induced hyperprolactinemia.
Aims of the study Estimate the prevalence of hyperprolactinemia in patients treated by a single antipsychotic and identify the risk factors for its occurrence.
Methods This is a prospective study carried out at the psychiatric department of psychiatry of university hospital of Mahdia during 24 months. We have included all patients with a follow up and treated by single antipsychotic for at least 12 weeks. A pituitary MRI has been requested for patients with a prolactin level higher than 100 ng/ml.
Results We have collected 92 patients. Hyperprolactinemia was found in 34.8% of patients among which 7.6% have had prolactin level greater than 150 ng/ml. Pituitary MRI have revealed 2 cases of macro-adenoma. The decrease of the antipsychotic doses has significantly improved prolactin levels. The switch of antipsychotic with another less inducing hyperprolactnimea has significantly decreased prolactin levels. 7 factors were correlated significantly to hyperprolactinemia: sex (female), substance use, presence of side effects, combination of psychotropic drugs, atypical antipsychotics, type of antipsychotic: Haloperidol and amisulpride, antipsychotic dose greater than 1000 mg Chlorpromazine equivalent.
Conclusion Hyperprolactinemia must be carefully identified, through a pre-therapeutic assessment and monitoring of patients.
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Hyperinsulinism as evidence of munchausen syndrome by proxy: A case report

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Introduction Hyperinsulinism is one of the most important causes of hypoglycemia. Rarely, drug toxicity can be a reason. In the context of Munchausen syndrome by proxy (MSBP), toxicity usually occurs in children due to drug administration by a parent or caregiver.
Methods we report a case of a 2-year-old girl with hyperinsulinaemic hypoglycaemia due to insulin injections by her mother.