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### Elevated IL-6 Levels Are Associated with Social Cognitive Impairment in Stable Patients with Schizophrenia.

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**Introduction:** Cognitive impairment is a core feature of schizophrenia, associated with significant social and functional impairment. Schizophrenia has also been associated with inflammation and immune changes. Recently it has been showed that IL-6, a pro-inflammatory cytokine, was associated with cognitive impairment. **Objectives:** The aim of this study was to assess the associations between a pro-inflammatory cytokines (IL-6) and an anti-inflammatory cytokine (IL-4) with social cognition in a sample of stable patients with schizophrenia. **Methods:** Social cognition was assessed using the Face Emotion Identification Task (FEIT) and the Hinting Task in 29 stable outpatients with schizophrenia. Blood was collected and cytokines (IL-4, IL-6) assays were realized (CBA method). **Results:** IL-6 levels showed a significant inverse correlation with FEIT global score ( $p = 0.019$ ,  $\rho = -0.475$ ) and a trend of significant inverse correlation with the Hinting Task ( $p = 0.079$ ,  $\rho = -0.332$ ). However, IL-4 levels showed no significant association with the FEIT or the Hinting task ( $\rho = 0.079$  and  $0,121$ ; respectively). **Conclusions:** Elevated IL-6 levels seem to play a role in social cognitive impairment in stable patients with schizophrenia. These results should be interpreted with caution due to the limited number of participants in the study.