

Although differences between the two groups of children were observed, the measures of frustration did not provide information about the magnitude of behaviors among children with difficulties. Hence, we estimate it is essential to keep the parents' report in the measure of emotional regulation.

Regarding each measure of frustration, the “disappointing gift” induced higher levels of frustration than the rest of situations, and was associated with the delivery of gender-related objects. The “denied game” was influenced by children's motivation and was also linked with gender differences (measures with gender-neutral games were less motivating than those with gender-related games, such as cars or dolls). The “denied candy” did not generate a major impact on children. Most of them did not pay attention to the sweet because they were concentrated in the game.

It can be concluded that disappointing gift and denied game are relevant to the study of this population, however, consistent with other authors, the observational evidence must be complemented by other measures, such as reporting parent or teachers.

Keywords: Emotional regulation, Frustration, Measure of emotion regulation, Behavioral problems, Preschool.

PS-052 Empathy maturing in children with mental retardation

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The emotional well-being of a person depends of the level of social competence. Empathy can be considered as a precondition for developing this ability. Therefore it is important to study mechanisms and factors influencing on empathy maturing of children with mental retardation.

The aim of this research was studying the features of the process of empathy in children with mental retardation per se, as well as studying the relationship between child-parent relations and maturing of empathy.

The research included the following methods:

1. Neuropsychological diagnosis;
2. The experimental method (presentation of emotionally charged videos);
3. Lüscher Color Test test;
4. Self-assessment of child's emotional response;
5. Drawing of a family;
6. PARI- technique of E. Schäfer, and R.Bell in T.V.Netscheret's adaptation;
7. Statistical analysis included U-Mann-Whitney test, t-Student test and Spearman correlation analysis.

The experimental group consisted of 20 children of 6–7 years old with mental retardation (15 boys and 5 girls) and their parents. The control group included 23 children (15 girls and 8 boys) of the same age with normal development and their parents. The study has showed that the children of the experimental group were less emotionally responsive than their normally developing peers. Child-parent relations in the control group were more satisfactory than in the experimental group. The positive correlation between favorable child-parent relations and the ability of the child to the emotional response has been observed in the control group, but not in the experimental group. These conclusions can put into the focus while working-out an intervention course for empathy developing for children with mental retardation.

PS-053 Evaluación de la personalidad y sintomatología asociada en pacientes con trastorno de conducta

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La sintomatología ansioso-depresiva se asocia estrechamente con los trastornos externalizantes. De hecho existe una amplia evidencia científica que sugiere una amplia comorbilidad entre ambos trastornos. Uno de los mayores exponentes de los trastornos externalizantes son los Trastornos de Conducta, los cuales se relacionan con rasgos de personalidad antisocial. Por todo ello, la presente investigación ha consistido en evaluar las variables de personalidad, la sintomatología ansioso-depresiva, el locus de control y la impulsividad en un grupo de pacientes diagnosticados de Trastorno de Conducta (Trastorno Negativista-Desafiante, Trastorno Disocial y Trastorno de la Conducta No especificado) ingresados en régimen de Hospitalización completa en ITA (Unidad de Trastornos de Conducta). Para evaluar la sintomatología ansioso depresiva empleó el STAI (Rasgo y Estado) y el BDI-II. En cuanto a la evaluación de la personalidad se empleó el MACI; También se emplearon la Escala de Impulsividad de Barrat y una escala de Locus de control. Los resultados muestran las características de personalidad de los pacientes diagnosticados con algún tipo de Trastorno de Conducta, así como su relación con la sintomatología asociada, la impulsividad y el locus de control.

Palabras clave: TRASTORNO DE CONDUCTA, PERSONALIDAD, ANSIEDAD, DEPRESIÓN, IMPULSIVIDAD, LOCUS DE CONTROL.

PS-054 Executive functions association with phenylalanine blood level in children with Phenylketonuria (PKU)

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Objectives: PKU is a metabolic disorder which is associated with intellectual disabilities. The negative consequences of phenylalanine blood level on brain development have been demonstrated. However the effect on executive functions is not yet known thus in this study we evaluated the correlation between executive functions and phenylalanine blood level in these children.

Method: In a case control study, a total number of 50 children at ages 6-16 who had three documented serum phenylalanine in their medical records enrolled the study. Patients with severe mental retardation, mood and psychotic disorders and who had a history of head trauma were excluded from the study. Demographic characteristics were recorded and the IQ level was determined using Raven Progressive Matrices. Executive functions including Behavioral Regulation Index, Metacognition Index and Global Executive Index were assessed by BRIEF rating scales. Statistical analysis was performed using parametric and nonparametric statistical methods including Chi square, ANOVA and regression analysis using SPSS-11 statistical software.

Results: Among participants 54 % were male and 46 % were female. The mean age of participants was 11.6 ± 3.7 . The mean of IQ score was 61.2 ± 16 and the mean serum level of phenylalanine was 10.3 ± 2.9 mg/dl. There was a negative correlation between IQ score and