

Socio-demographic, clinical and psychometric profile of a sample of Egyptian patients with social phobia

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The objective of this study was to investigate the sociodemographic characteristics, some clinical profiles and their relation to the severity of the socially phobic symptoms and if any associated depressive symptoms. To achieve this objective, a sample of 30 socially phobic patients and 30 matched normal control persons were recruited. The study was done using full psychiatric examination, social phobia scale, social interaction anxiety scale, Beck depression scale and structured clinical interview for the diagnosis of adult personality. The results showed that socially phobic patients had more significant stressors during childhood, more depressive and anxiety symptoms before the onset of social phobia and more depressive symptoms during their illness than normal control persons. The patients showed also traits of personality disorders including avoidant, dependent, borderline and passive aggressive personality disorders.