

Dissociative disorders and childhood abuse : An out-patient study in Egypt

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The aim of the present work was to systematically study a group of outpatient population presented with one of the dissociative experiences. The study aimed also to test the hypothesis that dissociation is associated with reported childhood trauma.

Forty-eight consecutive patients and a matched group of 48 non-patient controls were screened for dissociative experiences using the Arabic Version of the Dissociative Experience Scale. The studied individuals are likely to have a history of childhood abuse and neglect. Routine clinical assessment may miss these severe conditions that need better understanding, intervention and management.