

Prevalence of obsessive compulsive disorder among female secondary school students in Cairo

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This work aimed to study the point prevalence of obsessive compulsive disorder among the female adolescents in secondary schools in Cairo and delineate the commonest obsessive compulsive symptoms on them.

The study included 607 female secondary school students from six schools covering urban, semi-urban and rural areas in Cairo during the educational year of 2002-2003. Data were obtained using LOI-Ch V (Arabic Version), (Rakhawy, 1992) and MINI-KID (Sheehan et al, 1998).

The study revealed that the prevalence of OCD was 1.2% and that of SOCS was 13.01%. The commonest OC symptom in the study sample was excess conscious. There was a significant difference between urban, semi-urban and rural areas as regards the prevalence of SOCS and OCD, being more in rural areas. Also, it was significantly higher in public than in private schools. Cases of OCD are associated with other psychiatric disorders, especially anxiety and mood disorders.