

Sleep profile in children with pervasive developmental disorders

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This study aimed at describing sleep patterns in a sample of Egyptian children with pervasive developmental disorders. The study included 15 children with a pervasive developmental disorder according to DSM-IV criteria, randomly chosen from the Child Psychiatry Outpatient Clinic at the Institute of Psychiatry, Ain Shams University, between the period from January to August 2004. An age and sex matched control group, formed of 10 healthy age and sex matched children from the Information Bank of the Sleep Laboratory, was included. All cases were clinically assessed and the severity of the PDD was further evaluated by the childhood autism rating scale (CARS). The results of this study confirmed the presence of sleep disturbances in children with PDD in the form of decreased sleep efficiency and change of sleep.