

Psychobiological perspective in obsessive compulsive disorder and its relation to clinical factors

El-Buraei, Hala A. Abou-El-Huda, Muhammad F. El-Gamal, Rushdi M. Amr, Musstafa A.

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The aim of the study was to check the hypothesis of the presence of biological impairments in OCD and to identify if there are relations between this impairment and certain varieties of the disorder such as clinical factors and neuropsychological functions. The current study was carried out on 65 patients diagnosed according to the criteria of DSM-IV TR (2000). Twenty normal control subjects were selected to match the patients group for age, sex and level of education. They were subjected to psychiatric and psychometric assessment in the form of psychiatric history and examination sheet designed by Mansoura Psychiatric Department, Y-BOCS, insight into illness, intelligence assessment by selected subtests of WAIS and memory assessment by WMS. Brain imaging (MRI) and electroencephalogram (EEG) were also done. Biological impairment was detected in this study among OCD patients. The study concluded that there are significant differences between patients with good and poor insight into the performance on object assembly test and visual reproduction test. Also, the presence of poor insight may be considered as a potential marker for the severity of illness.