

Study the role of parental rearing in the development of conduct disorder in Egyptian children

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Aim of the work was to detect the type of the possible psychiatric morbidity and cognitive deficits in parents of autistic children and correlating them to the severity of autism in their children.

Design of the study: Cross sectional, case control study.

Method: the study includes 28 children with different types of pervasive developmental disorders according to ICD-10 criteria and their parents; they are aged from 3-13 years. Both sexes are included. 20 normal children of matched age, sex and socioeconomic status together with their parents are included as control group. Children are subjected to the following: 1) semi structured psychiatric interview. 2) CARS. 3) IQ testing using Stanford Binet Intelligence Scale. While, parents are subjected to the following tools: 1) ICD-10 symptom checklist of mental disorders. 2) WAIS. 3) WCST.

Results: in the current study conduct disordered children show many behavior problems rated by their parents e.g. they are found to be disruptive, with temper tantrum, uncooperative, argumentative and selfish. They also show aggressive behavior, motor excess (hyperactivity, difficulty sitting still and jumpy), and attention problems (impulsivity, easy distractibility). Also, (total stress scores) for parents of conduct children are higher than the upper international limit for both fathers and mothers with very high significant difference between patient and control group. Also, mothers of the conduct children show low sense of competence; they don't find the role of parent as reinforcing as they have expected.

Conclusion: parent child relationship is under stress in families having child with conduct disorder, and these parents may remain at risk of development of dysfunctional parenting behavior.