

Comparative psychiatric study between organic and non-organic gastrointestinal illnesses

Abdel-Wahhab, Y. M.

Ain-Shams Univ., Cairo (EGY). Fac. of Med.

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Aim of the work: To estimate the ratio of non-organic gastro-intestinal diseases to cases showing organic changes, to compare both categories from the psychiatric, social, and psychometric point of view, to find out any difference between patients having upper and lower gastrointestinal diseases and finally to see the incidence of psychiatric complaints in the gastroenterology clinic. Method: 50 cases were studied from the gastroenterology clinic and all were subjected to complete clinical examination, endoscopic study and psychiatric study, as well as psychometric study using EPQ.9. Results: The prevalence of non organic gastrointestinal illnesses is 50%. All the cases attending the outpatient clinic complaining of lower gastrointestinal tract are proved to be non-organic in origin. Both cases of organic and non-organic illnesses have high scores of neuroticism. 10. Conclusion: Non-organic gastrointestinal illnesses are common and are associated with high neuroticism and presence of psychological stress.