

Cognitive deficits in Egyptian diabetics

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Aim of the work: Verification that psychological stress and emotional conflicts are predisposing factors in aetiology of diabetes; verification that specific personality types are more prone to diabetes; verification of the exact relationship of adaption to life events to the course, control and complications of diabetes; verification of the degrees and quality of cognitive deficits in diabetes. Method: 48 diabetic patients and 25 controls are subjected to EPQ, Holmes (1967), Verbal similarities test and block design test of Wechsler-Bellevue test for abstraction and visio-spatial ability respectively, as well as other tests to assess perception ability, immediate memory and attention and concentration. Results: On verbal similarities test, the block design test and the digit span test of the Wechsler-Bellevue test for intelligence for adults, the mean scores of females with early onset of DM are 11 ± 0.7 , 14.5 ± 3 and 1.25 respectively, females with late onset of DM are 5.4 ± 5.4 , 7.5 ± 7.8 and 1.44 respectively, males with early onset of DM (insulin dependant type) are 12.7 ± 3.2 , 18.8 ± 7.5 and 0.9 respectively, males with early onset of DM (non-insulin dependant type) are 5.4 ± 4 , 13.8 ± 2.3 and 2.1 respectively and males with late onset of DM are 10.5 ± 8.4 , 14.6 ± 6 and 1.37 respectively. Conclusion: Diabetics as a group can be put in the normal range of intelligence for the general population.