ELSEVIER

Psychiatry Research 94 (2000) 131–138

PSYCHIATRY RESEARCH

www.elsevier.com/locate/psychres

Binge eating disorder: prevalence and psychopathological features in a clinical sample of obese people in Italy

Carla E. Ramacciotti[a,*], Elisabetta Coli[a], Carlo Passaglia[b], Maria Lacorte[b], Enrica Pea[b], Liliana Dell'Osso[a]

[a] *Department of Psychiatry, Pharmacology, Neurobiology and Biotechnologies, Section of Psychiatry, University of Pisa, Via Roma 67, 56100 Pisa, Italy*

[b] *Second Department of Internal Medicine, St. Chiara Hospital, Pisa, Italy*

Received 12 March 1999; received in revised form 8 September 1999; accepted 22 November 1999

Abstract

Binge eating disorder (BED) is a recently conceptualized eating disturbance, and its clinical features and prevalence are still a matter of debate. This study uses interview methodology to estimate the prevalence of BED in Italy in a sample of 66 obese people presenting for treatment, and examines potential related features typical of patients with anorexia and bulimia nervosa. The lifetime and the 6-month prevalences of BED were 18.1 and 12.1%, respectively. Breaking the group down on the basis of the current as well as lifetime presence of BED, we found that the weight and shape primary to self-esteem, and the interpersonal distress related to body image, were associated with lifetime BED ($P < 0.05$). All-or-none thinking about food and dieting was typical of BED patients as a whole, either current ($P < 0.01$) or remitted ($P < 0.05$). We discuss two important findings from our study: (a) the key role of self-esteem depending upon weight and shape in discriminating the eating-disordered obese from non-eating-disordered individuals; and (b) the need to explore the whole lifespan when screening for BED, so pointing to the state–trait issue. © 2000 Elsevier Science Ireland Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Obesity; Self-esteem; Interpersonal; Spectrum; Structured interview; Trait

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +39-050-835416; fax: +39-050-23581.
E-mail address: c.ramacciotti@psico.med.unipi.it (C.E. Ramacciotti)

0165-1781/00/$ - see front matter © 2000 Elsevier Science Ireland Ltd. All rights reserved.
PII: S0165-1781(00)00130-X

1. Introduction

Obesity represents a major health issue in Western societies, and recent studies have shown that in a substantial number of overweight individuals there is a problem with binge eating. This observation has led to the conceptualization of a new eating disorder, binge eating disorder (BED), characterized by recurrent binge eating episodes in the absence of regular inappropriate compensatory behaviors (DSM-IV; American Psychiatric Association, 1994). Though infrequent in the general population, BED is relatively common among obese people, as this peculiar eating pattern often leads to weight gain and obesity; moreover, as adiposity increases, the tendency towards binge eating seems to increase too (Telch et al., 1988). In the United States the prevalence of this disorder is approximately 2% in community samples and 30% in clinical ones (Spitzer et al., 1992, 1993b). Recent epidemiological and clinical studies (Basdevant et al., 1995; Gotestam and Agras 1995; Robertson and Palmer, 1997; Giusti et al., 1998) report a lower prevalence of BED in European countries such as: France (0.7% in the general population and 15.2% in a clinical sample); Norway (1.5% in a community-based sample); the UK (0.7% in a community sample of women with a history of obesity); and Switzerland (10% in a clinical sample). In a previous Italian survey (Ricca et al., 1998), BED was found in 8.1% of the subjects in a sample of overweight people undergoing specific obesity treatment; the diagnosis was made using a self-report questionnaire. There is strong evidence that interview-based methodologies tend to find a lower prevalence of the disorder compared with earlier studies that were based on self-report (de Zwaan et al., 1993; Greeno et al., 1995; Stunkard et al., 1996).

The clinical importance of the recognition of BED among the obese lies in the association with severe overweight problems, distress about eating and being overweight, psychopathology, and a poor outcome of weight-loss treatment (Yanovski, 1993; Yanovski et al., 1993; de Zwaan et al., 1994; Mitchell and Pederson Mussel, 1995).

Recently there has been a growing debate among researchers on the effectiveness of provisional DSM-IV diagnostic criteria as regards the frequency threshold (Spitzer et al., 1993b; Wilson et al., 1993; Kruger et al., 1996; Striegel-Moore et al., 1998), the exclusionary criteria for compensatory behaviors (Mizes and Sloan, 1998), and the relationship with non-purging bulimia nervosa (Hay and Fairburn, 1998; Garfinkel, personal communication).

The present study was designed to assess the prevalence of BED in a sample of obese Italians by means of a structured clinical interview; and then to investigate obese people in terms of cognitive and behavioral patterns shared by patients with anorexia and bulimia nervosa (eating disorders spectrum).

2. Methods

2.1. Subjects

The study population consisted of individuals consecutively seeking obesity treatment at the outpatient clinic of the Second Department of Internal Medicine, St. Chiara Hospital, Pisa, Italy, over a 6-month period. The inclusion criteria were the presence of a body mass index (BMI) higher than or equal to 30 kg/m^2 and a willingness to take part in the study; only one patient refused to undergo the psychiatric assessment because of previous personal acquaintance with one of the interviewers. Written informed consent was given before the assessment began. Subjects were informed they would participate in a study on the psycho(patho)logical profile and eating habits of overweight people, without mentioning binges or compulsive eating. Sixty-six subjects fulfilled the inclusion criteria.

2.2. Instruments and procedure

Patients underwent psychiatric assessment based on the use of the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-III-R (SCID, Spitzer et al., 1993a)

دریافت فوری ← متن کامل مقاله

ISIArticles
مرجع مقالات تخصصی ایران

- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه تمام متن مقالات انگلیسی
- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه ترجمه شده مقالات
- ✓ پذیرش سفارش ترجمه تخصصی
- ✓ امکان جستجو در آرشیو جامعی از صدها موضوع و هزاران مقاله
- ✓ امکان دانلود رایگان ۲ صفحه اول هر مقاله
- ✓ امکان پرداخت اینترنتی با کلیه کارت های عضو شتاب
- ✓ دانلود فوری مقاله پس از پرداخت آنلاین
- ✓ پشتیبانی کامل خرید با بهره مندی از سیستم هوشمند رهگیری سفارشات