

suppression of Conditioned Avoidance Response (CAR) in rats. The CAR test has high predictive validity for antipsychotic activity (indicated by selective suppression of CAR). GAL was also recently reported by others to increase both brain ventral tegmental dopamine (DA) cell firing activity and extracellular DA levels in the medial prefrontal cortex in rats. Interestingly, improvement of negative and cognitive symptoms, as well as significant amelioration of psychotic symptoms, in schizophrenia by adjunct treatment with GAL to the atypical antipsychotic risperidone has been reported in clinical studies and case reports.

Methods: The present study evaluated, in rats, the effect of adjunct GAL (1.25 mg/kg, sc) to risperidone (0.2 mg/kg, ip; estimated DA D2 receptor occupancy \approx 45–50%) on CAR behavior. Extrapyramidal side effect (EPS) liability was evaluated by the catalepsy test.

Results: Risperidone alone produced a slight suppression of CAR. Pretreatment with GAL significantly enhanced risperidone-induced suppression of CAR in an antipsychotic-like manner. Consistent with previous observations, GAL (1.25 mg/kg) alone had no effects on CAR. In the catalepsy test, risperidone alone produced a slight, but significant (compared with vehicle treated animals) increase in catalepsy scores. Pretreatment with GAL did not significantly alter catalepsy scores. GAL alone had no effect on catalepsy scores.

Conclusions: In conclusion, the present data are in line with recent clinical reports, and suggest that GAL may indeed contribute to antipsychotic efficacy with retained beneficial EPS liability profile, if given as an add-on to antipsychotic medication.

Acknowledgement: Galantamine and risperidone were generously provided by Janssen-Cilag. The study was supported by University of Kalmar, intramural faculty funding.

doi:10.1016/j.schres.2007.12.413

Phenomenology

347 – PREVALENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PARANORMAL THOUGHTS IN PEOPLE WITH SCHIZOTYPAL PERSONALITY FEATURES

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Background: Recent findings from several large-scale community surveys suggest that hallucinations and delusions tend to occur in non-clinical samples as a continuous phenotype rather than as an all-or-none phenomenon. However, the majority of these studies concerning were limited to cross-sectional design and western-based samples. The main purpose of the present study was to examine the phenomenon and development of the idea of paranoia among the non-clinical population in the Chinese context.

Methods: The participants with schizotypal personality features and controls were recruited from college students in Guangzhou. All of them completed the Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire (SPQ).

Twenty-six participants were selected randomly from a total sample pool of 149 participants with schizotypal personality features. These participants were requested to complete the self-reported paranoid ideation checklist and other measures of mental status at baseline, 6-month and 1-year time points.

Results: There are significant changes in the experience of ideas of reference along with the three different time points on each dimension (Frequency: $F=4.52, p<0.05$; Conviction: $F=4.79, p<0.05$; Distress: $F=6.00, p<0.05$) and the total score of ideas of reference ($F=6.89, p<0.05$). Pairwise comparison shows only the reduction from the first to the third time approaches significance (each dimension and the total score: $p<0.05$), although the direction is continual reduction along with time.

Conclusions: The current findings suggest that the paranoid ideation would aggregate to more severe suspicious thoughts in individuals with schizotypal personality than those without such a propensity. As a result, ideas of reference of individuals with psychometric schizotypal personality have significantly descended from the first time to the third time with an interval of 6 months. As a whole, all the tests on mental health also have the same direction, indicating a little improved, although without any significance.

doi:10.1016/j.schres.2007.12.414

348 – PHENOMENOLOGICAL CHANGES IN PERSISTENT AUDITORY VERBAL HALLUCINATIONS IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

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Background: Auditory verbal hallucinations (AVHs) are inherently subjective symptoms and occur in about 60% of patients diagnosed with schizophrenia. Difficulty in conducting clinical studies of AVHs may be partly attributable to heterogeneous population with regard to clinical status and course of illness. The aim of this longitudinal study was to find the changes in symptom structure of AVHs in schizophrenia by analyzing the data from patients with first episode or chronic schizophrenia and to evaluate the structural stability of AVHs.

Methods: Forty DSM-IV schizophrenia patients (drug-naïve first episode schizophrenia, $N=21$ and drug-free chronic schizophrenia, $N=19$) experiencing AVHs were evaluated by the Psychotic Symptom Rating Scales – Auditory Hallucination Subscale (PSYRATS-AHS) twice at 6-month interval (before the initiation of antipsychotic treatment and after 6-month antipsychotic treatment). To understand dynamic changes in cluster structure of phenomenological variables of AVHs and to obtain useful graphical information on the changes in constituents and properties of clusters

through 6-month antipsychotic treatment, hierarchical clustering (HC) and multidimensional analysis (MDS) were performed.

Results: Phenomenological variables of AVHs formed the emotional and cognitive clusters from baseline through 6-month follow-up. Psychosocial disruption, which initially formed a cluster with cognitive variables, congregated with emotional variables at stable phase. In sub-group analysis, cluster structure of first episode group showed more dynamic changes at an interval of 6 months compared to chronic schizophrenia group. Phenomenological variables also formed two main clusters in both groups at stable phase. As for psychosocial disruption, a similar shift from cognitive to emotional cluster was observed in both groups.

Conclusions: These results suggest that clinical significance of two main domains (emotional or cognitive characteristics) of AVHs may differ in accordance with clinical status.

Acknowledgement: Grant # M103KV010012-06K2201-01210 from the Brain Research Center of the 21st Century Frontier Research Program funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Republic of Korea.

doi:10.1016/j.schres.2007.12.415

349 – COGNITIVE BIZARRENES VS. PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL BIZARRENES: TWO DIFFERENT MEASURES OF THE DREAM AND WAKING MENTATION IN SCHIZOPHRENIC SUBJECTS.

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Background: The classical use of the term bizarreness refers to strange, unusual or eccentric aspects of thought contents. On the other hand, cognitive bizarreness conceptually stems from previous research on the formal aspects of dream narratives, with dream bizarreness having been considered a useful cognitive marker of the ongoing mental activity during sleep.

Methods: Dream and waking fantasy reports were collected in 30 acutely ill schizophrenic subjects and in 30 normal controls. A pair of judges scored the narrative material by applying the dream bizarreness scale (Hobson et al., 1987) and a second pair was asked to score the same material with reference to the bizarre thoughts item in the Mental Status Examination rating scale.

Results: Statistical analysis of these two sets of data pointed to a noteworthy difference in the two scales. Schizophrenic subjects show a degree of cognitive bizarreness in waking fantasies comparable to the one found in their dreams and in those of normal subjects, with the latter showing almost no bizarreness at all in their waking cognition. On the other hand, the psychopathological bizarreness scale showed no significant differences between the two subject groups, with bizarre thoughts scoring higher in dreams than in waking fantasies in both schizophrenic subjects and normal controls.

Conclusions: Cognitive bizarreness, a formal correlate of brain activation during sleep that can also be measured in the waking state, appears to be distinct from the typical psychopathological definition of bizarreness. It may as such be considered a useful marker in the psychotic mental state in view of supporting the recently proposed hypothesis of the dreaming brain as a model for psychosis (Hobson, 2004).

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doi:10.1016/j.schres.2007.12.416

350 – JUDGMENT AS A CONCEPT IN PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

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Background: Judgment means the ability to assess a situation correctly and to act appropriately in the situation. Despite the important role and its central part in psychiatric examination, judgment still remains a vague concept. Our aim is to define judgment as consisting of three mental groups or aspects: analytic thinking, social–ethical action tendencies and insight. They are inter-related and dynamically affect each other. Impairment of judgment can be expressed by insult of each of these mental groups.

Methods: This is a theoretical paper based on clinical experience and study of the literature. Clinical vignettes and discussions will illustrate the different degrees of judgment impairment.

Results: Clinical material confirmed our basic hypothesis, that, when only one aspect of judgment is impaired, it is not sufficient to state judgment as globally impaired; when two aspects are disturbed, they inevitably affect the third aspect of judgment and lead to global judgment impairment. The most severe form of judgment impairment appears when all three aspects are disturbed.

Conclusions: There is a direct relationship between the degree of judgment impairment and the severity of psychosis. Judgment is regarded as relatively preserved when one aspect of judgment is impaired, but not sufficient to severely influence the other two. Judgment is considered pathological when at least two components are harmed, thus, it is impossible for the third aspect of Judgment to remain untouched. Furthermore, assessment of judgment in mentally ill patients is an essential part of psychiatric evaluation and has a central role in court appointed evaluation, especially when criminal responsibility is in debate. Treatment with anti-psychotic medications improves the different compartments of judgment in a descending order. They first improve the social–ethical behavior aspect, then the analytical thinking. The last and most resistant compartment of Judgment to psychopharmacological treatment is insight, where psychotherapy through enhancing

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