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SYMPOSIUM SESSION

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The fourth contribution of Simonelli, Parolin, and Cristofalo describes specific personality subtypes in young adults with substance use disorders and suggest that treatment of these severe syndromes should be integrated to interventions focused on personality patterns. The clinical implications will be discussed.

CPAP-Q sort: personality, traits and disorders in childhood

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Abstract

Introduction: The controversy over the existence of personality disorders in childhood has continued due to the limitations of studies in this research area, to the reluctance to apply adult personality diagnoses to children and to the difficulty of the assessment. The aims of this work is the validation of the CPAP-Q (Child Personality Assessment Q-Sort; Fortunato, Speranza, Tanzilli, Lingiardi, 2018), a Q-Sort instrument able to assess the childhood personality.

Methods: The validation procedure includes: 150 children (M=7,8; 70% male), from 4 to 11 years old evaluated by 150 clinicians. Children are in treatment from 2 to 12 months. Procedure includes other instruments: an ad-hoc questionnaire for information on the clinician, on the child and his/her family, CPNI (Coolidge, 2002), CBCL (Achenbach, 2001) and PDC-C (Malberg, Rosenberg & Malone, 2017). For the validation procedure it was conducted the Q-Factor analysis to obtain Emerging Personality Patterns empirically derived. To evaluate the internal coherence of each Factor it was measured the Cronbach's alpha. Then it was evaluated the correlation between the Q-Factor's and the other instruments.

Results: 8 factors emerged from the Q-Factor analysis (High Functioning, Inhibited/Withdrawn, Dysphoric/Anxious, Inhibited/Depressive, Obsessive, Borderline/Dysregulated, Borderline/Impulsive, Schizoid). The Cronbach's alpha reached really good or excellent levels for each Q-Factors. The correlations highlight a good construct and criterion validity. *Conclusions*: Data define that it's possible to evaluate the developmental pathways for emerging personality patterns in childhood and how these may lead to personality disorders in adolescence and adulthood. Preliminary data is promising and seems to confirm that the Q-Sort procedure is the best way to assess childhood personality and its elements.

treatment have more efficacy than others; among them, Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Mentalization Based Therapy (MBT) and Transference Focused Psychotherapy (TFP) share common elements - manualization, attention to treatment relationship, clear framework, attention to affect - and beneficial effects, as reported in differents recent articles. In the panel, these three forms of intervention are presented and discussed.