

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PSYCHIATRY

[Abstract:0186] *Social and cultural psychiatry*

Temperament and character in living kidney donors

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Objective: Kidney transplantation is the best exclusive treatment of renal failure. The number of kidney transplantations from cadavers are inadequate, therefore living organ donors are seen as the most important source for transplantation. At present, studies on the psychiatric conditions and personality features of donors are inadequate. In this research, we aimed to explore personality features of living kidney donors.

Methods: Thirty-three donors involved in the transplantation process as kidney donors in Ataturk University's Organ Transplantation Unit participated in the study. Sociodemographic data of the donors was recorded and the Temperament and Character Inventory (TCI) was administered. The results gathered were compared with measurements which have been standardized for the Turkish community (2). The main subscales of the Temperament and Character Inventory are novelty seeking, harm avoidance, reward dependence, persistence, self-directedness, cooperativeness, and self-transcendence. Except for persistence, all main subscales have their own subscales. For the statistical analysis, independent sample t-tests and chi-square analysis were used. $P < 0.05$ was accepted as statistical significance level.

Results: Twenty-one female and 12 male kidney donors completed the study. 90% of the donors are married, 72.7% have a low income level. In the temperament dimension, donors' novelty seeking score is found to be significantly lower than the mean Turkish community scores. Exploratory excitability and extravagance scores were found to be lower than the mean Turkish community scores when the novelty seeking subscales were examined. In the temperament dimension, shyness and attachment subscale scores of the donors were lower than the Turkish community scores. Openness to warm communication and compassion subscale scores of the donors were higher than the Turkish community scores. In the character dimension, self-directedness and enlightened second nature scores were lower in donors. Self-transcendence and transpersonal identification scores of the donors were higher than the Turkish community scores.

Conclusion: In our study, the number of female donors were higher than males. This might be because of the compassionate and dedicating features of female and maternal nature. Some of the results like high score of a self-transcendence, transpersonal identification and compassion scores and lower score of attachment subscales might be expected from donors, because being a donor is difficult to accept and most of the living donors were close relatives or loved ones. The lower self-directedness scale scores detected in donors were a surprising finding, because according to Cloninger's hypothesis, the self-directedness group is identified as having irresponsible, incriminating characteristics. We wonder how they can accept being a kidney donor? We think that more studies are needed on this topic.

Keywords: character, donor, temperament

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Assessment of hope level and assessment of factors influencing hope levels in Turkey

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Objective: Hope is defined as having positive expectations about the future, making individuals feel that he/she can overcome negative experiences that may be encountered in the future and affecting mental health positively. In previous studies, it has been suggested that hopelessness levels vary depending on age, gender and culture.

In our country, there is a scarcity of studies evaluating hope levels in the general population. For the first time in 2003, the Life Satisfaction Survey measuring objective happiness perception and satisfaction in health, social security, formal education, professional life, personal

confidence, justice, transportation services and personal development was performed by the Turkish Statistics Institute (TurkStat) and data have been reported annually since then. In the present study, it was aimed to analyze and discuss hope level and factors influencing hope levels and changes over time in data from the TurkStat Life Satisfaction Survey collected between 2010 and 2013 in the light of the literature.

Methods: This study was carried out using the raw data of the Life Satisfaction Surveys conducted in 2010 and 2013 by TurkStat. Overall, 7027 people located in the 2010 survey and 55833 people located in 2013 study were included in the study. Two different models (ordered logit and artificial neural network models) were used, and the obtained results were compared.

Results: When factors influencing the hope level in individuals participating in the Life Satisfaction Survey were assessed according to gender, it was seen that men were more hopeful than women in both 2010 and 2013. When effects of age on hope level were assessed, it was found that there was an increase in the hope level with advancing age in 2010, but no significant effect was found on hope level in 2013. No significant effect of marital status was detected in 2010 while it was seen that married individuals were less hopeful in the 2013 survey. It was seen that employment status and health issues had no significant effect on hope level in 2010, while employees and those with health issues had lower hope levels in 2013. It was found that domestic violence had a significant effect on hope level in both 2010 and 2013. When effects of individuals' happiness level on the hope level were assessed, it was seen that the level of happiness had no significant effect on the hope level. When level satisfaction from income status was assessed, it was seen that satisfaction from income status had a significant effect on hope level in both surveys.

Conclusion: It was determined that the male gender, presence of domestic violence, state of happiness, satisfaction with income affected the hopelessness levels in both 2010 and 2013. There was an increase in hope level with advancing age in 2010, but there was no such association in 2013. The hopelessness level was higher in married people, employees and those with health issues in 2013 but not in 2010. In this study, it was found that the factors affecting the level of hope varied over the years.

Keywords: hope, influencing factors, Turkish statistics institute

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[Abstract:0701] *Social and cultural psychiatry*

Frequency of outpatient follow-up application in schizophrenia: community mental health center research

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Objective: In this study, we aimed to identify factors that affect the frequency of application to community mental health center in patients with schizophrenia.

Methods: Sixty-four patients who had been diagnosed with schizophrenia by DSM-IV-TR diagnostic criteria and followed up at least 6 months by one of three community mental health centers depending on Bakirkoy Psychiatric and Neurological Diseases Training and Research Hospital were enrolled in our study. 41 patients were frequently callers, 23 patients were coming in rarely. Sociodemographic data form, Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale, Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia, Global Assessment Scale, Social Functioning Scale were completed by clinicians in face-to-face patient interviews.

Results: No significant difference was found in the socio-demographic characteristics between the two groups. The number of hospitalizations was significantly higher in the rare applicant group. In addition, the number of patients who have been refused treatment, have been treated at home and with depressive symptoms was significantly higher in the rare applicant group than in the other group. On the other hand, attending rates at the psychoeducation group meetings and social skills training were significantly higher in the frequent applicant group. Global assessment scale scores were significantly higher in frequently calling patients.

Conclusion: The frequency of visits to the community mental health center is an important determinant of the clinical outcome of patients. We found that the global functioning levels, depressive symptoms, number of hospitalizations, attending to the psychoeducation group meetings and social skills lessons are determinative for application rates.

Keywords: community mental health center, schizophrenia, social psychiatry

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