

# **Preliminary correlational study between personological dimensions in Borderline Personality Disorder measured with Shedler-Westen Assessment Procedure-200 and quality of depressive experience measured with Depressive Experience Questionnaire**

Miki Bonizzoni (University of Pavia, Lodi, Italy) A. Merelli, E. Caverzasi

## ***Objective***

Depressive symptoms in BPD patients are often characterized by anger, hostility, void, fear of abandonment, self-harm and high suicidality risk.

Moreover, BPD patients seem to show more dependence, which results in anaclitic depressive experience.

Nevertheless, they can also express severe self-criticism, corresponding to introjective kind of depression. First aim of this study is to evaluate the relation between personological dimensions and quality of the depressive experience in a sample of BPD patients. We expect a significant correlation between PD-Borderline and QDysphoric: emotionally dysregulated (QDED) factors and Neediness subscale of DEQ. Secondly, we wonder if PDBorderline factor as well as Q-DED predict a higher severity in depression.

## ***Methods***

Outpatients referring to the Centro Psico-Sociale of Pavia were assessed for personality; inclusion criteria were BPD diagnosis according to DSM-5 and age between 18 and 45 years. Exclusion criteria were major psychiatric diagnoses, cognitive impairment, severe organic condition and hospitalization. Patients were tested with SWAP-200, Hamilton Depressive Scale (HAM-D), Symptom Checklist 90 (SCL90) and DEQ. We used IBM SPSS to conduct Spearman's bivariate correlation and linear regression analysis.

## ***Results***

19 patients were recruited. No significative correlations were found between PD-Borderline factor and DEQ factors. QDED factor positively correlated with the Neediness subscale ( $r_s$  0.472,  $p < 0.05$ ). PD-Borderline and QDED factors didn't correlate with HAM-D scores, but they did with SCL-90 Depression subscale ( $r_s$  0.457 and 0.538,  $p < 0.05$ ).

## ***Conclusion***

PD-Borderline and QDED SWAP-200 factors predict subjective severity of depression. PD-Borderline factor doesn't correlate with any DEQ factor. As expected, QDED correlates with the Neediness subscale: this confirms that these patients tend to rapidly develop a dependency.