

P01-422

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL, EMOTIONAL AND FAMILY FUNCTIONING WITHIN A GROUP OF PATIENTS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

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MS is a heterogeneous entity that varies in its etiology, classification, clinical course and sequelae, and is included as part of the chronic diseases that cause limitations in many areas. This study aims to assess neuropsychological functions, anxiety and depression in patients with MS, and realize that these variables can be influenced by family functioning. This study consists of a group of 25 individuals were women with diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis (ages 25 to 58 years). Data collection was done through: a demographic questionnaire and clinical, a neuropsychological assessment battery (LNNB), a range of Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS), and a questionnaire of family functioning (FACES-III). The results suggest that the group of patients evaluated present neuropsychological deficits in several areas, as well as depression and anxiety. They also suggest that there is a higher prevalence of neuropsychological deficits associated with a higher incidence of depressive symptoms and family dissatisfaction. Taken together, these results reveal an involvement of emotional and family functioning on neuropsychological functioning. As such, these factors should be considered in the implementation of intervention programs, both in terms of individual psychotherapy, or the level of family psychotherapy as well as in neuropsychological and psychosocial rehabilitation programs and these patients.