

Parental Rejection and Comorbid Disorders in Adolescents with Somatization Disorder

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Present research investigated parental rejection and comorbid disorders in adolescents with somatization disorder. It was hypothesized that adolescents with somatization disorder are likely to report more parental rejection and have developed comorbid disorders compared to the normal controls. Equal number of adolescents diagnosed with somatization disorders and those with minor general medical conditions were recruited from different hospitals. Parental rejection was assessed through Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (Child PARQ; Rohner, 2004). Screening for Somatoform Symptoms Scale (SOM-7; Rief & Hiller, 2003) was used to assess the symptoms' severity of somatization disorder. Interpersonal Relationship Anxiety Questionnaire (IRAQ) and Centre for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale (CES-D; Radloff, 1977) was used to assess comorbidity of anxiety and depression respectively. Results indicated that adolescents with somatization disorder perceived their parents being significantly more rejecting and reported more anxiety and depression symptoms compare to the normal controls. Parental rejection had significant positive correlation with somatization disorder. Hostility/aggression and indifferent/negligence (for PARQ mother) were significant predictors of somatization disorder.

Keywords: Somatization disorder, parental rejection, comorbid disorders, adolescents