

Poster

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Poster 35

[P-35-01]

Affective Responses to Stress and Genetic Variation of rs4570625 in Thai Medical Students

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[P-35-02]

Exploring the Association Between rs17110690 of the TPH2 Gene and Positive and Negative Affects in Thai Preclinical Medical Students

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[P-35-03]

Effect of Cinemeducation on Empathy of Thai Clinical-Year Medical Students: A Randomized Controlled Trial

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[P-35-04]

Inhibitory Control and Social Anxiety: The Mediating Role of Irritability and the Specific Contribution of Avoidance

*Juyeong Kim¹, Somi Yun¹, Eunjae Lee¹ (1. Hanyang University Guri Hospital (Korea))

[P-35-05]

From Comic Panels to Psychiatric Labels: A Psychiatric Review of The Joker and the Public Perception of Mental Illness

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[P-35-06]

Cross-Cultural Adaptation and Validation of the ABLE Scale in Japan: Toward Global Understanding of Epilepsy Stigma

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[P-35-07]

Social capital and social support as moderators in the association between perceived discrimination and mental health among Filipino domestic workers in Macao

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[P-35-01] Affective Responses to Stress and Genetic Variation of rs4570625 in Thai Medical Students

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Keywords : Emotional response、Genetic variation、Medical students、rs4570625、TPH2

Mental health challenges, including stress-related emotional difficulties, are common among medical students due to the demanding academic and clinical responsibilities. Multiple factors act in concert to produce variability in emotion, among them being genetic factors. Tryptophan Hydroxylase 2 (TPH2), a key enzyme in serotonin synthesis, has been implicated in individual differences in stress reactivity and affect regulation. This study examines the association between rs4570625 variation, and emotion response to psychosocial stressors.

The study involved 338 Thai preclinical medical students. Participants rated their emotion using the Thai adaptation of the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS). Demographic variables, perceived psychosocial stressors, and preferred coping strategies were collected as potential covariates. Participants provided consent for the analysis of their leftover blood specimens, from which DNA was extracted for rs4570625 genotyping by TaqMan SNP Genotyping Assays with StepOnePlus® Real-Time PCR Systems. The genotype effects and interactions with stress on mood were analyzed using generalized linear models.

Controlled for stressors, coping preference, and other covariates, individuals with the T/T genotype reported significantly lower negative affect scores compared to the G/G group ($B = -1.13$, $p = 0.003$), with the G/T group also showing a smaller but significant effect ($B = -0.70$, $p = 0.038$). The T/T genotype was also associated with higher positive affect and moderated the negative impact of stressors on positive affect ($B = 0.39$, $p = 0.044$), preserving emotions under stress.

The rs4570625 with T allele, particularly in T/T homozygotes, appears to be associated with more favorable emotional profiles—lower negative affect and greater maintenance of positive affect under stress. These findings suggest a possible role of TPH2 genetic variation in emotional variation and resilience.

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[P-35-02] Exploring the Association Between rs17110690 of the TPH2 Gene and Positive and Negative Affects in Thai Preclinical Medical Students

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Keywords : Emotional regulation, Medical students, Psychological resilience, Single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP), TPH2 gene

Purpose: Medical students are often exposed to intense academic leading to significant stress, which can significantly impact their mental health and emotional well-being. The Tryptophan Hydroxylase 2 (TPH2) gene, which regulates serotonin synthesis in the brain, plays a key role in emotional regulation. Genetic variations in TPH2 may influence individual differences in emotional responses. However, the rs17110690, located in intron 8 of TPH2, remains largely understudied. This study aimed to examine the association between rs17110690 and emotional traits in Thai preclinical medical students.

Patients and Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted among 364 preclinical medical students (1st -3rd year) at Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand. Emotion was self-reported using the Thai adaptation of the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS). The rs17110690 genotypes (G/G, G/A, A/A) was genotyped using TaqMan SNP Genotyping Assays with StepOnePlus® Real-Time PCR Systems. Generalized linear models were used to evaluate associations between rs17110690 genotypes and positive, negative, and anxious affect, adjusting for psychosocial stressors, preferred coping strategies, and demographic variables.

Results: Participants carrying the variant genotypes (G/A or A/A) reported significantly higher positive affect ($B = 2.21$, $p = 0.001$) and lower negative affect ($B = -0.863$, $p = 0.001$) compared to G/G homozygotes. No significant difference was found for anxious affect ($p = 0.870$).

Conclusion: The rs17110690 of TPH2 was associated with a more favorable emotional profile, underscoring the potential role of genetic factors in contributing to the psychological resilience and capacity to adapt and recover from adversity. These findings support further investigation into TPH2 variation in mental health research, particularly in relation to emotional resilience.

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[P-35-03] Effect of Cinemeducation on Empathy of Thai Clinical-Year Medical Students: A Randomized Controlled Trial

*Pichaya Tantaatipanit¹, Natee Viravan¹, Wuttiapat Iammeechai^{1,3}, Karan Wongprakarnsanti²
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Keywords : Empathy、 Medical student、 Cinemeducation、 Movie、 Medical education

Background: Empathy in medical students often declines during training, potentially affecting patient care, professional growth, and well-being. Cinemeducation - using films and reflective discussion to promote emotional insight - is an emerging educational approach that may enhance empathy, though evidence remains limited and more research is needed to confirm broader impact. This study aimed to evaluate the effect of cinemeducation on empathy over time in Thai clinical-year medical students.

Methods: Forty-seven clinical-year medical students were recruited and randomly assigned to an intervention group (n = 23) or control group (n = 24). The intervention group joined a cinemeducation session that included viewing *A Beautiful Mind* and structured discussions before and after the screening. The control group followed the standard medical curriculum without additional activities. Empathy was measured using the validated Thai version of the Jefferson Scale of Empathy - Student Version (JSE-S) at baseline, immediately post-session, and at 1- and 3-month follow-ups. Changes in empathy scores between groups were analyzed using repeated-measures regression.

Results: Over three months, regression analysis showed a significant overall increase in empathy scores in the intervention group compared to the control group (beta = 5.18, p = 0.025). Supplementary t-tests showed significantly higher scores in the intervention group immediately post-intervention (mean difference = 10.68, p = 0.003), at one month (mean difference = 6.23, p = 0.015), and at three months (mean difference = 6.36, p = 0.079). Although empathy improved, scores declined gradually over time. **Conclusions:** A single cinemeducation session significantly enhanced empathy in medical students, with effects lasting up to three months. However, the declining trend suggests that longer follow-up or reinforcement interventions may be needed.

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[P-35-04] Inhibitory Control and Social Anxiety: The Mediating Role of Irritability and the Specific Contribution of Avoidance

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Keywords : Inhibitory control、Irritability、Social anxiety、Mediation

Background: Inhibitory control has been discussed as a cognitive factor associated with social anxiety, but a consistent explanatory mechanism between the two has yet to be clearly established. Meanwhile, irritability is a common emotional response pattern observed across various psychiatric conditions and has been suggested to play a mediating role, particularly in anxiety-related symptomatology.

Objective: This study aimed to examine whether irritability mediates the relationship between inhibitory control and social anxiety, and to investigate whether this mediation effect differs between the two subcomponents of social anxiety: anxiety and avoidance.

Methods: A total of 83 psychiatric patients completed questionnaires on irritability (Brief Irritability Test) and social anxiety (Liebowitz Social Anxiety Scale; LSAS). The LSAS includes subscales for anxiety and avoidance. They also completed the Stroop task to assess inhibitory control. Regression analyses and bootstrap sampling methods were used for data analysis.

Results: Inhibitory control showed no significant total or direct effect on the total score of social anxiety or on the anxiety subcomponent, but the indirect effect through irritability was significant in both. Additionally, for the avoidance subcomponent, while the direct effect was not significant, both the total effect and the indirect effect through irritability were significant, indicating a full mediation model.

Conclusion: This study empirically demonstrated that irritability serves as a significant mediating pathway in the relationship between inhibitory control and social anxiety, with the proposed model showing the strongest explanatory power in the avoidance domain. These findings suggest that the pathway between inhibitory control and irritability is more clearly expressed in avoidance symptoms of social anxiety, and that identifying this specific mechanism contributes to a more integrated understanding of the cognitive and emotional underpinnings of social anxiety.

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[P-35-05] From Comic Panels to Psychiatric Labels: A Psychiatric Review of The Joker and the Public Perception of Mental Illness

*Tejbir Singh Deol¹, Arun Thakur¹, Saif Toubasey¹, Ella Marie Bauwens¹, Madhusudan Dalvi^{1,2} (1. King's College London (UK), 2. Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (UK))

Keywords : Cultural Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Media, Social perceptions, Comic books

Background:

The Joker, an iconic comic book figure symbolising chaos and madness, is associated with various psychiatric conditions and mental health disorders due to his unpredictable and violent behaviour. Over the decades, his character has had a significant cultural impact on public attitudes toward mental health and the stigma surrounding psychiatric illness.

Aims:

This review examines how The Joker has influenced public perceptions of mental illness. It explores his character's evolution through a psychiatric lens to identify key themes and their impact on mental health stigma and cultural ideas about mental illness in society.

Methods:

A hybrid approach combined qualitative thematic analysis of key Joker comic storylines with a narrative literature review of the media's role in shaping mental health perceptions. Primary texts were analysed for psychiatric themes, while secondary literature assessed media driven stigma and evolving portrayals.

Results:

Four main psychiatric themes emerged: (1) early depictions of the Joker as a "dangerous madman" reflecting psychosis and antisocial traits; (2) associations between severe mental illness and violent criminality, often framed through trauma informed narratives; (3) psychiatric institutional failure and stigma, symbolised by Arkham Asylum's portrayal; and (4) contemporary complexity highlighting trauma, dissociation, and identity fragmentation, reflecting diagnoses like dissociative identity disorder. The literature review confirmed that the media frequently exaggerate violence linked to mental illness, reinforcing stigma and impeding public understanding of recovery. Although recent narratives show greater psychological nuance, the Joker remains predominantly characterised as untreatable and dangerous.

Conclusions:

The Joker serves as a reflection and a representation of societal views on mental illness. This review highlights the pressing need for collaboration between mental health professionals and media creators to promote accurate portrayals. Enhancing mental health literacy through responsible storytelling can reduce stigma. The Joker's evolving portrayal offers a critical lens on the intersection of psychiatry, media, and culture.

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[P-35-06] Cross-Cultural Adaptation and Validation of the ABLE Scale in Japan: Toward Global Understanding of Epilepsy Stigma

*Takafumi Shiganami¹, Satoshi Saito^{2,3}, Chihiro Nakata², Sayaka Kobayashi¹, Haruo Yoshimasu¹, Mohmad Farooq Shaikh⁴, Go Taniguchi², Izumi Kuramochi^{1,2} (1. Department of Psychiatry, Saitama Medical Center, Saitama Medical University, Saitama, Japan (Japan), 2. Department of Epileptology, National Center Hospital, National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry (Japan), 3. Department of Neurology, Tokyo Women's Medical University School of Medicine (Japan), 4. Department of Pharmacology, Charles Sturt University, Orange, NSW (Australia))

Keywords : epilepsy stigma、ABLE-J、public health、measurement tool、cross-cultural adaptation

Background:Epilepsy stigma remains a significant public health concern worldwide. In Japan, misconceptions such as the belief that epilepsy is a mental illness are widespread. To address the lack of culturally relevant assessment tools, we adapted and validated the Japanese version of the Attitudes and Beliefs about Living with Epilepsy scale(ABLE-J) . **Methods:**An online cross-sectional survey was conducted with 400 Japanese adults from the general population. The ABLE scale was translated and culturally adapted following ISPOR guidelines. We examined construct validity using confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) and assessed internal consistency using Cronbach's alpha. Criterion-related validity was evaluated via correlations with epilepsy knowledge, cultural beliefs, and the Public Attitudes Toward Epilepsy Scale–Japanese version (PATE-J). **Results:**CFA supported a four-factor structure—Negative Stereotypes, Risk and Safety Concerns, Work and Role Expectations, and Personal Fear and Social Avoidance. The 27-item revised model demonstrated improved fit (CFI = 0.893, TLI = 0.880, RMSEA = 0.087). All subscales showed good to excellent reliability (α = 0.81–0.94). ABLE-J scores were positively correlated with PATE-J (r = 0.617) and cultural stigma (r = 0.489), and negatively with epilepsy knowledge (r = -0.326). No significant differences in stigma were found across demographic groups. **Conclusion:**The ABLE-J is a reliable and valid instrument to assess multidimensional public stigma toward epilepsy in Japan. It is applicable for evaluating public health interventions and enables cross-cultural comparisons. These findings underscore the need for culturally sensitive anti-stigma strategies in epilepsy care.

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[P-35-07] Social capital and social support as moderators in the association between perceived discrimination and mental health among Filipino domestic workers in Macao

*Xiaoyu Duan^{1,2}, Timothy S. Sumerlin², Brian J. Hall^{2,3} (1. Department of International Health, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University (United States of America), 2. Center for Global Health Equity, NYU Shanghai (China), 3. Department of Health, Behavior and Society, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University (United States of America))

Keywords : Migrant domestic workers、Perceived discrimination、Mental health、Social capital、Social support

Background: Migrant domestic workers (MDW) face a heightened risk of poor mental health while working abroad, partly due to perceived discrimination. Social networks, including cognitive and structural social capital and perceived social support, are often viewed as protective. However, findings are mixed, with some studies reporting paradoxical effects, namely higher social capital or support associated with worse mental health. **Objectives:** To assess whether social capital and social support moderate the association between perceived discrimination and symptoms of anxiety and depression among Filipino MDWs in Macao, China. **Materials and Methods:** A total of 1,362 Filipino MDWs in Macao completed self-administered surveys between November 2016 and August 2017, using respondent-driven sampling. Demographics, perceived discrimination, anxiety and depression, cognitive and structural social capital, and perceived social support were collected. Multiple linear regression assessed the association between perceived discrimination and mental health, and tested moderation by social capital and social support. **Results:** Perceived discrimination was independently and positively associated with both depression ($\beta = 0.217$, $P < 0.001$) and anxiety ($\beta = 0.198$, $P < 0.001$). Higher cognitive social capital was independently associated with lower depression ($\beta = -0.477$, $P < 0.001$) and anxiety ($\beta = -0.356$, $P = 0.009$). Structural social capital was positively linked to depression ($\beta = 0.071$, $P < 0.001$), but not with anxiety. Social support showed no significant association. No moderating effects of social capital or social support on the relationship between perceived discrimination and mental health were observed. **Conclusions:** Perceived discrimination is a robust predictor of anxiety and depression among Filipino MDWs. Cognitive social capital appears independently protective, while no buffering effects were found for social capital or social support. Further research is needed to explore the roles of social networks in this population and to inform interventions aimed at reducing discrimination and strengthening social resources.