

Premorbid personality aspects in mood and schizophrenic disorders

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This study examines premorbid personality traits from a self-reported and family-reported perspective on a group of unipolar major depression (n = 27), bipolar (n = 21), and schizophrenic (n = 16) recovered inpatients, and a control group (n = 21). Using the Munich Personality Test (MP-T Scales) of von Zerssen for self-reporting and family-reporting personality traits, and the Kischkel scale for the measurement of 'intolerance of ambiguity,' we found more 'rigidity,' less 'esoteric tendencies,' and more 'intolerance of ambiguity' among unipolar depressive patients. Schizophrenic patients showed more esoteric tendencies and less 'extraversion.' Results confirm the hypothesis supported by many authors regarding a particular personality structure in unipolar major depression characterized by rigidity and ambiguity intolerance. This personality pattern for unipolar depressives seems to be different from the depressive personality disorder proposed by DSM-IV. Schizophrenic individuals diffe