

NEW CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DERMATOGLYPHIC DIAGNOSIS OF THE AUTIST SYNDROME

ANA ȚARCĂ

Paper presented in the “Academic Days of Iași”, XXIIIrd Edition, September 23-24, 2008

The paper resumes a previous investigation on the autist syndrome, analyzed from a dermatoglyphic perspective, on an extended batch of subjects (207 *versus* only 137 in 2003), with ages between 2.5 and 18 years, all coming from Moldova, from whom 414 palmar and finger prints had been taken over.

An important observation to be made is that, at the level of both digital and palmar picture – especially -, the actual series of autists evidences the same distortions, bearing the same clinical implications, as the 2003 series, the only difference being that the anomalies under analysis – with more severe medical significance and deeper malformative effects for their carriers – recorded higher mean values in the 2008 batch, which means a more ample pathological charge of the latter one.

Equally, as to *the sexual dimorphism and bilateral differences, regarding the distribution of the digital and palmar distortions, and also their distribution on fingers or in the carriers’ palm*, the two series of autists show similar tendencies, quite close, too, to the ones manifested by patients suffering from epilepsy and sekelary EPI-es, considered for comparative purposes.

Apart from demonstrating the structural and behavioural dermatoglyphic unity of the three major brain affections – by the sensible difference of the percent values of the anomalies thus evidenced from those of the reference batch of Moldova - the results obtained also support the hypothesis according to which the causal factors involved in the development of such maladies (be them of genetic or teratological nature) have acted in the same pre-natal, early period of life, when the epidermal papillary ridges were also finalized. More than that, for the autist syndrome, the dermatoglyphic anomalies might serve as “markers” in the precocious testing of the persons risking of being affected by such maladies, for the application of a corresponding preventive therapy prior to the debut of the first signs, while the frequency values recorded at batch level – as reference data in the screening methods for an early discovery of the malady at populational level.

1. INTRODUCTION

Part and parcel of the investigations on pathological dermatoglyphy developed by the author as early as 1991, thanks to a fruitful cooperation with the Center for Mental Health (MHC) at the “Socola” University Hospital of Iași, the present study is a come-back upon the autist syndrome, a largely occurring malady in Romania, and not only [14, 17].

The first researches on infantile autism have been initiated in the year 2003 [11, 12] when, out of the large number of patients dermatoglyphically investigated – by finger and palmar printing – at MHC Iași, the autists accounted to a total number of 137 subjects (67 boys and 70 girls). Even if, in this stage, most of the results obtained agree fully with the data provided by the foreign literature of the field for European batches of persons suffering from the same malady [2, 4, 7, 15], as the autist syndrome has been approached by the author for the first time – in