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## INVESTIGATION OF THE LEVEL OF AGGRESSION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS

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**Introduction.** The Buss-Perry Aggression Questionnaire (BPAQ) is a widely used psychological assessment tool that measures various dimensions of aggression, including physical aggression, verbal aggression, anger, and hostility. Students in some periods of life can most clearly manifest outbursts of uncontrolled aggression, hostility, and anger. Such behaviour affects not only the effectiveness of learning activities, but also the success of further professional development of the individual.

**Aim:** to establish an understanding about the level of aggression in foreign students in 3rd and 5th year before and after classes

**Materials and methods.** The Bass-Perry study of aggression involved 62 foreign students (42.6% of 3rd course and 57.4% of 5th course) in which 27 (44%) were males and 36 (56%) were females pursuing studies in Belarusian State Medical University. The observation was selective, one-time. A questionnaire consisting of 29 questions (Google-form) was developed. The survey was conducting through the Internet. The results of the questionnaire determined the levels on the following scales: physical and verbal aggression, anger, and hostility. Frequency of testing - 2 times (before and after training sessions). The total score was calculated by summing the values of the four scales. The results were presented numerically (scores on each scale). A score of 29-50 is regarded as a low level of aggressiveness, 51-85 as average, and scores over 86 indicate a high level of aggression.

Microsoft Excel, Statistica 10.0 software packages were used for statistical data processing. Descriptive statistics are presented as Me ( $Q_{25}$ - $Q_{75}$ ). The Mann-Whitney test was used to compare independent groups, and the Wilcoxon test was used to assess changes before and after training. Differences between the groups were considered significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

**Results and their discussion.** The overall level of aggression in girls studying in the 3rd year before classes was as follows 87 (76-92), and 98 (87-100) after classes. At the same time, the level of aggression in girls of the fifth year of study before the lessons amounted to 93 (88-98), and 99 (98-102) after. The overall level of aggression in young men in the 3rd year before classes was 83 (56-92), and 92 (86-100) after classes. The level of aggression in young men in the fifth year of study before the class was at the level of 75 (66-87), and 98 (85-99) after.

There were no statistically significant differences in the overall level of aggression depending on gender and year of study ( $p > 0.05$ ).

Results of the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test indicated that there is a significant large difference in aggression levels before and after classes ( $T=5$ ,  $p=0.028$ ).

**Conclusion.** According to the Bass-Perry study of aggression questionnaire, the girls studying in the 3rd and 5th year before and after classes were found to have a high level of aggression. In young men studying in the third and fifth year before the classes the average level of aggression was revealed, and after the classes the high level of aggression was revealed. As per the study results no statistically significant differences in aggression levels by gender and year of study were found. The stress level of third- and fifth-year students is significantly higher after the classes than before them. Given these results it is necessary to implement preventive measures for students to reduce the level of aggression after classes, these measures can be the same for different genders and years of study.