ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY AS A PREDICTOR OF PREFRONTAL SYMPTOMS IN SPANISH ADULTS

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INTRODUCTION

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OBJECTIVES

Sensory processing sensitivity, component of Environmental Sensitivity (ES), is defined as an innate trait that makes individual differences in the way of processing both environmental and inner information (Greven et al., 2019). Previous neuropsychological studies have suggested that highly sensitive people (HSP) show a reduced inhibitory control and increased excitability (Acevedo, 2020). However, no studies have identified the consequences of this specific neuropsychological functioning in daily life, through the evaluation of prefrontal symptoms (PS) in this population.

The study aimed to examine the relationship between ES and prefrontal symptoms. Moreover, the prediction ability of ES on prefrontal symptoms was also



Prefrontal Symptoms Inventory (Pedrero-Pérez et al., 2016)

RESULTS

Dispersion graphs. Relationship between prefrontal symptoms and SPS general factor and its dimensions.



SPS general factor

Multiple linear regression, DV=Prefrontal symptoms.

	B(SD)	t	CI 95%
SOS	0.61 (0.49)***	13.86	0.52, 0.69
AES	-0.08 (0.51)**	-2.30	-0.15, -0.01
LST	-0.15 (0.36)***	-3.66	-0.24, -0.07
FPD	0.14 (0.41)***	3.61	0.07, 0.22
HA	-0.25 (0.46)***	-6.75	-0.32, -0.17
F = 61.31	$R^2 = 0.273$		

Sensitivity to overstimulation

Psychophysiological discrimination

Pearson correlations prefrontal symptoms and SPS, and its dimensions.

	SOS	AES	LST	FPD	HA	SPS
Prefrontal symptoms	0.440***	0.024	0.165***	0.293***	0.012	0.303***

p<0.01, *p<0.001, SOS=Sensitivity to overstimulation, AES=Aesthetic sensitivity, LST=Low sensory threshold, FPD=Psychophysiological discrimination, HA=Harm avoidance

CONCLUSIONS

It seems highly sensitive people could be more likely to present prefrontal symptoms. In fact, all the SPS dimensions appear to predict these neuropsychological symptoms, being SOS the one that can indicate the strongest Acevedo, B. P. (2020). The basics of sensory processing sensitivity. In The Highly Sensitive Brain (pp. 1–15). Elsevier.

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