

## Study on the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Its Psycho-Social-Genetic Risk Factors among Tibetan Adolescents in Heavily-Hit Area Three Years after Yushu Earthquake in Qinghai Province, China

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**Abstract :** Aims: To examine the prevalence of POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) symptoms among Tibetan adolescents in heavily-hit disaster area three years after Yushu earthquake, and to explore the interactions of the psycho-social-genetic risk factors. Methods: This was a three-stage study. Firstly, demographic variables, PTSD Checklist-Civilian Version (PCL-C), the Internality-Powerful other-Chance Scale (IPC), Coping Style Scale (CSS) and the Social Support Appraisal (SSA) were used to explore the psychosocial factors of PTSD symptoms among adolescent survivors. PCL-C was used to examine the PTSD symptoms among 4072 Tibetan adolescents, and the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Disorders (SCID) was used by psychiatrists to make the diagnosis precisely. Secondly, a case-control trial was used to explore the relationship between PTSD and gene polymorphisms. 287 adolescents diagnosed with PTSD were recruited in study group, and 280 adolescents without PTSD in control group. Polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism technology (PCR-RFLP) was used to test gene polymorphisms. Thirdly, SPSS 22.0 was used to explore the interactions of the psycho-social-genetic risk factors of PTSD on the basis of the above results. Results and conclusions: 1. The prevalence of PTSD was 9.70%. 2. The predictive psychosocial factors of PTSD included earthquake exposure, support from others, imagine, abreact, tolerant, powerful others and family support. 3. Synergistic interactions between A1 gene of DRD2 TaqIA and the external locus of control, negative coping style, severe earthquake exposure were found. Antagonism interactions between A1 gene of DRD2 TaqIA and poor social support was found. Synergistic interactions between A1/A1 genotype and the external locus of control, negative coping style were found. Synergistic interactions between 12 gene of 5-HTTVNTR and the external locus of control, negative coping style, severe earthquake exposure were found. Synergistic interactions between 12/12 genotype and the external locus of control, negative coping style, severe earthquake exposure were also found.

**Keywords :** adolescents, earthquake, PTSD, risk factors

**Conference Title :** ICN 2018 : International Conference on Nursing

**Conference Location :** London, United Kingdom

**Conference Dates :** September 27-28, 2018