The Correspondence of DSM-5 Alternative Model of Personality Disorders with Grandiose and Vulnerable Narcissism

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Abstract

In order to investigate the correspondence of Alternative Model of Personality Disorders with vulnerable and grandiose narcissism, 261 students from Tabriz University completed Personality Inventory for DSM-5 and Pathological Narcissism Inventory. Results revealed that vulnerable narcissism were correlated with five pathological personality traits but grandiose narcissism were mostly correlated with antagonism and psychoticism. Regression analysis of vulnerable narcissism showed that all pathological trait except detachment were significant predictor of vulnerable narcissism total score and contingent self-esteem dimension; also detachment and psychoticism were predictor of hiding the self; psychoticism was predictor of devaluing; and all pathological traits were predictor of entitlement rage. With respect to grandiose narcissism, results revealed that antagonism and psychoticism were predictor of grandiose narcissism total score; and about the dimensions, antagonism was predictor of exploitativeness and psychoticism was predictor of Self-Sacrificing Self-Enhancement, and of grandiose fantasy. DSM-5 AMPD relatively corresponds with grandiose and not with vulnerable narcissism.

Keywords: Alternative model of personality disorders, grandiose narcissism, vulnerable narcissism

Introduction

The fifth edition of Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM–5; APA, 2013) proposed the alternative model of personality disorders (AMPD) (Krueger, et al., 2011) in which a personality disorder is described as underlying personality dysfunction (impairments in self and interpersonal functions; Criterion A) and pathological personality traits (criterion B) (APA, 2013) in which the traits include five higher order domains (i.e., negative affectivity, detachment, antagonism, disinhibition, and psychoticism) (Markon et al., 2013). However AMPD moved into the third section in the final version of DSM-5, as result of lack of enough research.

In the DSM-IV-TR narcissistic personality disorder (NPD) was assessed with symptoms related to entitlement, grandiosity, lack of empathy, grandiose fantasies and a heightened sense of uniqueness and self-importance. some researchers (Miller, et al., 2013; Miller, et al., 2016) believe these symptoms captures just one dimension of narcissism (i.e., grandiose) and don't encompass the whole clinical phenomenon of narcissism (Ogrudniczuk, 2013), wherase new approaches suggest two main dimensions of grandiosity and vulnerability for narcissism (Miller, et al., 2017; Wright and Edershil, 2018; Eaton, et al., 2017). The grandiose narcissism includes traits such as exhibitionism, attention seeking and exaggeration, whereas the vulnerable includes traits such as inferiority, oversensitivity and anxiety (Eaton, et al., 2017; Miller, et al. 2016). However, AMPD introduced two traits of antagonism (i.e., grandiosity and attention seeking) as B criterion. Despite studies reporting correlation of these traits with

narcissism (Wright, et al., 2013; Hopwood, et al., 2012), scrutiny of finding imply that another traits such as deception, manipulation, hostility, mistrust and perceptual dysregulation also correspond with narcissism. Consequently the validity of AMPD isn't clear with regard to vulnerable narcissism and it's necessary to investigate its correspondence with both dimensions of narcissism.

Method

In a correlational design, three hundred undergraduate students from Tabriz University were selected by random cluster sampling but finally 261 of them (age mean= 20.31±7.48) returned completed inventories. The participants provided informed consent.

Tools

Personality Inventory for DSM-5 Brief Form (PID-5-BF). PID-5-BF is a 25 item scale that includes five pathological trait domains: Negative Affect, Detachment, Antagonism, Disinhibition and Psychoticism. Research supports the five higher order correlated factor structure of PID-5-BF and it showed good reliability (Anderson, et al., 2018; Amiri, 2018).

Pathological Narcissism Inventory (PNI). PNI is a 52-item multidimensional self-report measure for assessment of two dimensions of narcissism, grandiose and vulnerable. It consists seven subscales: Grandiose Fantasy, Exploitativeness, Self-Sacrificing Self-Enhancement, Contingent Self-Esteem, Hiding the Self, Devaluing, and Entitlement Rage, that the third one measure grandiose and the four latter measure the vulnerable narcissism. studies support its validity and reliability in different cultures (Jaskic et al., 2014; Soleimani et al., 2015).

Data Analysis

The Pearson correlation coefficient and multiple regression analysis were utilized for data analysis.

Results

In Table 1, the correlations between study variables are presented. It indicates that vulnerable narcissism subscales and total scores were correlated with all pathological personality traits, but with regard to grandiose narcissism, exploitativeness were correlated with antagonism and psychoticism, self-enhancement correlated with all personality traits except detachment, grandiose fantasy and grandiose narcissism total score are correlated with all pathological traits.

Table 1. correlation matrix of pathological traits and narcissism dimensions

		Negative affect	Detachment	Antagonism	Disinhibition	Psychoticism
Vulnerable	Contingent self-esteem	$.44^{**}$	$.16^{**}$	$.44^{**}$	$.47^{**}$	$.51^{**}$
	Hiding the self	$.17^{**}$	$.24^{**}$	$.27^{**}$	$.24^{**}$	$.43^{**}$
	Devaluing	$.15^{*}$	$.25^{**}$	$.35^{**}$	$.28^{**}$	$.55^{**}$
	Entitlement Rage	$.36^{**}$	$-.14^{*}$	$.33^{**}$	$.33^{**}$	$.35^{**}$
	Total score	$.36^{**}$	$.14^{*}$	$.42^{**}$	$.41^{**}$	$.55^{**}$
grandiose	Exploitativeness	.02	.04	$.31^{**}$	.06	$.23^{**}$
	Self-Enhancement	$.18^{**}$	.11	$.15^{**}$	$.17^{**}$	$.24^{**}$

Grandiose Fantasy	.29**	.21**	.38**	.32**	.60**
Total score	.23**	.18*	.36**	.27**	.50**

** = p<0.01; * = p<0.05

As a result of significant correlation between variables, multiple regression analysis is utilized. with regard to vulnerable narcissism results revealed that all personality traits except detachment are significant predictor of Contingent Self-Esteem; detachment and psychoticism are predictor of Hiding the Self, detachment, antagonism and psychoticism predict devalung, all five personality traits are predictor of entitlement rage, and all traits, except detachment, predicts total score of vulnerable narcissism. Regarding grandiose narcissism, the result showed that antagonism predicts explosiveness, negative affect and antagonism predict Self-Enhancement and grandiose fantasy, and finally antagonism and psychoticism predict grandiose narcissism total score.

Discussion

The present study aimed to investigate the correspondence of AMPD with vulnerable and grandiose narcissism among students. The results revealed all pathological personality traits of AMPD, especially psychoticism, antagonism and disinhibition are correlated with vulnerable total score and dimensions. Also, regression analysis showed that different personality traits have a role in vulnerable narcissism that psychoticism has the strongest role and then negative affect, antagonism, disinhibition and detachment. These findings are congruent with previous studies (wight, et al., 2013; Miller, et al., 2013; Hopwood, et al., 2012) implying that different pathological personality traits are involved in vulnerable narcissism. In fact it can be concluded that previous and present study findings suggest that instead of DSM-5 AMPD, different pathological personality traits are involved and merely antagonism isn't a vulnerable narcissism predictor, then adding other traits increases its variance (e.g., Miller, et al., 2013; Hopwood, et al., 2012).

Findings of grandiose narcissism showed that specially psychoticism and antagonism are involved in dimensions and total score of grandiosity. These findings are consistent with previous studies (Wright, et al., 2013; Miller, et al., 2013). According to Wright, et al. (2013) AMPD is mostly appropriate for grandiose narcissism that the antagonism is an important component involved in, however present and previous findings (e.g., Miller, et al., 2013; Hopwood, et al., 2013) imply that other traits also have a role in this type or narcissism. Therefore its noteworthy the AMPD seems to not correspond with vulnerable narcissism and correspondence of grandiose narcissism is relatively acceptable.

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Conflicts of interest