This paper focuses on results of a non-patient group that participated as control group in a research about anorexia nervosa and depression. As it is assumed that depression is frequently a concomitant pathology in anorexia nervosa, we carried out a comparative case/control study with 50 restrictivetype (PAN) anorexic patients, 50 depressed patients (PD) and 50 non patients (NP), aged between 13 and 16. We used the Rorschach test and the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) and compared results to parents’ observations collected by means of the Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL). These results have already been published (García Alba, 2003 a, 2003 b; 2004, in press). As expected, we did not find depressive symptoms in NP group. However, data invite to think of the existence of a high psychological vulnerability in this group and of its impact, although we would need to increase group size in order to generalize results. We also emphasize the importance of getting differential diagnosis in order to avoid iatrogenic interventions. Finally, we point out the convenience of using different tests and control groups that minimize biases in results and conclusions.

Keywords
Non patients, Adolescents, Assessment.