Abstract

Introduction: With a score between 71 and 84 on the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children- Revised (WISC-R) one speaks of a low normal IQ (LNIQ) or borderline IQ. Until recently this was considered as a mild condition. However, its possible association in the development of psychopathology is gaining increasing force. Objective: To determine the current state of patients with low LNIQ at the Children and Adolescent Psychiatry Service at La Misericordia Hospital, seen between 2000 and 2005. Method: A descriptive study. Phone interview with LNIQ patients, diagnosed between 2000 and 2005, were performed. Results: Information was only obtained from 14.28% of the original sample. Of the 23 localized patients, 5 had dropped out from school, two lived abroad; two women had attempted suicide, 3 patients were in ICBF custody, 12 were at school with persistent poor academic performance and a 14-year old girl was pregnant. Only 1 finished high school and is currently studying a technical career. Conclusion: Low normal IQ, together with unfavorable socioeconomic factors, may increase the individual’s vulnerability to any psychopathology and affect his/her quality of life.

Keywords

Psychopathology, intelligence, social factors.