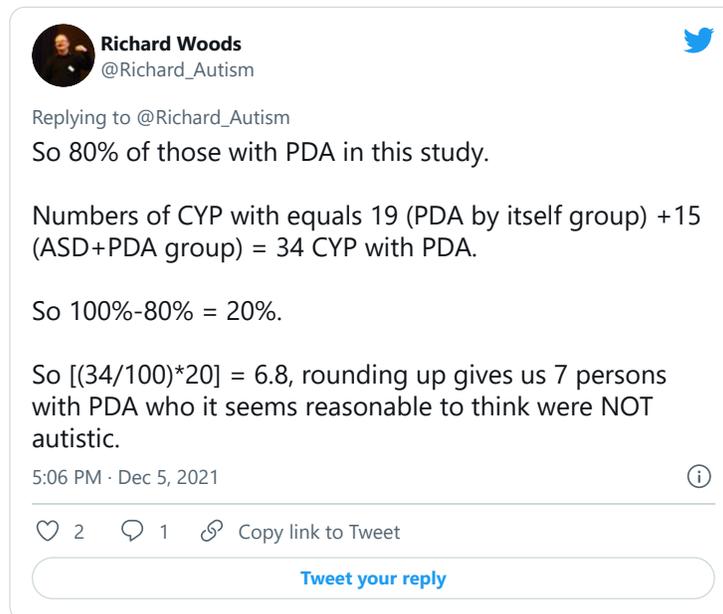




Richard Woods @Richard_Autism

Dec 5, 2021 · 30 tweets · [Richard_Autism/status/1467632116070555654](#)

Looking at the other data for autism for this study. & Persons with PDA might be high. There does seem to be a few non-autistic CYP with PDA present.



Demographic data is on page 176. The contradictory information.

ASD dx %: PDA = 90

ASD+PDA = 73

ASD no PDA = 82

ASD traits %: PDA = 79

ASD + PDA = 100

ASD no PDA = 100

PDA dx %: PDA group = 21

ASD + PDA = 13

ASD no PDA = 6

Conduct problems = 23

PDA suspected dx %: PDA = 58

ASD + PDA = 47

ASD no PDA = 18

Conduct problems = 31

ADHD dx %: PDA = 32
ASD + PDA = 47
ASD no PDA = 29
Conduct Problems = 23

Other dx %: PDA = 47
ASD + PDA = 47
ASD no PDA = 24
Conduct Problems = 15

Including these two groups as they seem interesting. It is interesting that ADHD seems to be common across the groups.

To be clear this is % of the each group.
PDA, is just the PDA group.
ASD + PDA = autism with PDA.
Autism with no PDA, self explanatory.



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Replying to @Richard_Autism

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ASD dx %: PDA = 90
ASD+PDA = 73
ASD no PDA = 82

So going using those reported autism dx, should give 2 with no autism dx in PDA group, & 4 in ASD + PDA group. Gives a total of 6 non-autistic persons with PDA.

To be clear why there are differences between what is reported in demographics & numbers in O'Nions (2013) Chapter 8 groups, is that O'Nions created the groups based on the studies results.

ASD traits %: PDA = 79

ASD + PDA = 100

ASD no PDA = 100

This one suggest there are only 2 CYP with PDA and are not autistic.

PDA dx %: PDA group = 21

ASD + PDA = 13

ASD no PDA = 6

Conduct problems = 23

interesting the drop in PDA dx in the two autism groups. Yet, comparable in standalone PDA & conduct problems groups. One could view this as O'Nions was correct to ignore PDA diagnoses.

Another way to look at this, it might be evidence that PDA is a separate diagnostic entity to PDA, i.e., representing a different clustering of features.

Some might say PDA is not often dx in autism around time study was conducted, as PDA was mainly diagnosed as a standalone dx.

PDA suspected dx %: PDA = 58

ASD + PDA = 47

ASD no PDA = 18

Conduct problems = 31

Kind of predictable, suspected PDA dx would be in those groups more likely showing features similar to PDA, or actually PDA.

I am unsure if O'Nions considered that if PDA is being diagnosed commonly amongst those presenting features commonly associated with PDA, might suggest their approach to PDA as something relating to autism might be a mistake.

Study also investigated potential links between PDA, autism, ToM & empathy.

"Intriguingly however, trait-wise analysis in Section 8.3.3 revealed no association between the severity of PDA traits and either the severity of autistic traits or ToM impairments." O'Nions 2013, p187

Oh how interesting, there were no associations between ToM impairment & PDA traits, who would have predicted that?

Oh wait, did Newson base PDA's social communication deficits in social identity, pride, shame (not ToM)? Well, yes.

"Surface sociability, but apparent lack of sense of social identity, pride, or shame"
Newson et al (2003, p597).

Theory of mind is not even mentioned in the article...

"One of the research questions that will be explored is whether children with PDA have difficulty with theory of mind, though their ability to distract, trick or divert seems to suggest not." (Christie et al 2012, p184).

Also predicted that...

Ellie Bishop also investigated ToM & PDA traits & found.

"Better parent-reported ToM was associated with lower levels of ASC traits, although no association was found between ToM and PDA traits." (Bishop 2018, p3).

The interesting thing is that O'Nions was one of Bishop's PhD supervisor's.

"I would like to thank my supervisors, Dr Will Mandy and Dr Liz O'Nions for the generous guidance and support they have provided throughout this project. I have learnt so much and their knowledge and expertise has been invaluable." Bishop (2018, p14).

It is interesting because from what I can tell, O'Nions PhD research is not cited in the thesis. Did Bishop learn from O'Nions about the previous study into PDA & ToM?

"In addition, the findings support previous research arguing for the use of the PDA label to describe a set of symptoms within the autism spectrum." Bishop 2018, p3.

I guess kind of be said, but it is rather misleading & an example of terribly circular nature of much/ most PDA research. Of just investigating (looking for) PDA in autistic persons, then using said research as evidence that PDA is part of the autism spectrum.

"Part 2, the empirical research paper, explores the profile of pathological demand avoidance (PDA) in autism spectrum conditions (ASC), and investigates the relationship between ToM and behaviours and traits associated with (1) ASC and (2) PDA." (Bishop 2018 p3).

I can give other examples, Bishop views PDA to be an ASD, viewing all of Newson's cohort to be autistic, when discussing reasons why Comfortable in Roleplay & pretend trait does not cluster with other demand-avoidance traits,

The result about comfortable & roleplay pretend trait not-clustering as predicted, also replicates a result seen in O'Nions PhD thesis...

I think that results suggests the underlying assumptions behind the EDA-Q are wrong, i.e, PDA is linked to deficits within the person.

Also worth noting the EDA-Q is based off Newson's descriptions and views PDA behaviours being related towards manipulation. So one should have predicted there would be little to no ToM associations with PDA traits, at least in part due to using the EDA-Q.

I should state Bishop had non-autistic controls in their study.

Link to Bishop (2018) thesis

<https://ethos.bl.uk/OrderDetails.do?did=1&uin=uk.bl.ethos.779134>

The point of the lack of ToM deficits associated with PDA, is because if you believe the hype, that autistic persons are meant to have ToM deficits; the notion PDA has no ToM deficits indicates that PDA is not part of the autism spectrum. Also Newson was right about something.

[@threadreaderapp](#) If you could please unroll?

Thank you in advance?

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