

Differences in the nature of body image disturbances between female obese individuals with versus without a co-morbid Binge Eating Disorder: an exploratory study including static and dynamic aspects of body image.

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Various components of body image were measured to assess body image disturbances in patients with obesity. To overcome limitations of previous studies, a photo distortion technique and a biological motion distortion device were included to assess static and dynamic aspects of body image. Questionnaires assessed cognitive affective aspects, bodily attitudes and eating behavior. Patients with obesity and a binge eating disorder (OBE, n = 15) were compared to patients with obesity only ONB (n = 15), to determine the nature of any differences in body image disturbances. Both groups had high levels of body image disturbances with cognitive affective deficits. BED participants also had perceptual difficulties (static only). Both groups reported high importance of weight and shape for self-esteem. There were some significant differences between the groups suggesting that a co-morbid BED causes further aggravation. Body image interventions in obesity treatment may be warranted.