

# Non-just-right experiences are more closely related to OCD than tics in Tourette patients

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## Introduction

Most adult patients with Tourette syndrome report premonitory urges before tics occur<sup>1</sup>. Likewise, patients with obsessive-compulsive behavior or disorder (OCB/OCD) report non-just-right experiences (NJRE) before corresponding behavior<sup>2</sup>. OCB/OCD is a frequent comorbidity to Tourette syndrome<sup>3</sup>. Some NJRE have been associated to premonitory urges. Our aim is to assess whether NJRE are more closely related to tics and tic-associated premonitory urges or with OCB/OCD.

## Methods

We assessed N = 111 patients at the Tourette specialty clinic at the Hannover Medical School (mean age = 34.77 +/- 12.93; N = 37 female) with a confirmed diagnosis of Tourette syndrome. They completed the premonitory urges for tic disorders scale (PUTS), the revised non-just-right experiences scale, and questionnaires regarding their tic severity, and comorbid OCB/OCD. A multi-trait-multi-methods matrix was calculated to examine associations amongst scales measuring tic-related and OCB-related phenomena.

## Results

	PUTS9 N = 111	NJRE N = 111	USP- SPS N = 72	YGTSS- TTS N = 111	ATQ N = 110	Y-BOCS N = 111	OC- TCDQ N = 111	FSU-12 N = 109
NJRE-QR	<b>.35</b> (<.001)							
USP-SPS	<b>.40</b> (< .001)	<b>.59</b> (< .001)						
YGTSS	<b>.20</b> (< .001)	.10 (.30)	.10 (.40)					
ATQ	<b>.34</b> (< .001)	<b>.37</b> (< .001)	<b>.30</b> (.01)		<b>.61</b> (<.001)			
Y-BOCS	<b>.34</b> (< .001)	<b>.40</b> (< .001)	<b>.33</b> (.005)		.15 (.12)	<b>.43</b> (<.001)		
OC-TCDQ	<b>.35</b> (< .001)	<b>.70</b> (< .001)	<b>.53</b> (<.001)		.16 (.10)	<b>.31</b> (.001)	<b>.55</b> (<.001)	
FSU-12	<b>.39</b> (< .001)	<b>.61</b> (< .001)	<b>.53</b> (<.001)		.15 (.12)	<b>.32</b> (.001)	<b>.44</b> (<.001)	<b>.65</b> (<.001)
GTS-QoL N = 111	<b>.44</b> (< .001)	<b>.45</b> (< .001)	<b>.42</b> (<.001)	<b>.29</b> (.002)	<b>.45</b> (<.001)	<b>.42</b> (<.001)	<b>.63</b> (<.001)	<b>.48</b> (<.001)

■ same traits/concepts, different questionnaires.

■ different but related concepts (e.g. urges and tics)

■ different concepts or traits (e.g. TS and OCD)

The table displays **Spearman's rho** correlations in a multi-trait-multi-methods matrix. Significant results (p<.05) in bold.

Information for quality of life (GTS-QoL9 was also added.

- NJRE-QR = Revised-Non-Just-Right-Experiences Questionnaire
- USP-SPS = University of Sao Paulo Sensory Phenomena scale
- YGTSS-TTS = Yale Global Tic Severity Scale Total Tic Score
- ATQ = Adult Tics Questionnaire
- Y-BOCS = Yale Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale
- OC-TCDQ-R = Obsessive-Compulsive Trait Core Dimensions Questionnaire
- FSU-12 = Feelings of Incompletes Questionnaire
- GTS-QoL = Tourette Syndrome Quality of Life Scale

## Conclusions

The premonitory urges measured with PUTS correlated overall higher with tic questionnaires than with OCD/OCB questionnaires. NJRE correlated higher with OCB than with tic severity. These results indicate that even though some patients with Tourette syndrome report NJRE, these are more closely associated with comorbid OCB/OCD than with tics.

### Literature

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