

Apathy and Impulse Control Disorders: Rethinking the Motivational Spectrum in Parkinson's Disease.



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BACKGROUND

Apathy and impulse control disorders (ICDs) occur often in Parkinson's disease (PD).

These disorders of motivation are conceptualized as mutually exclusive diagnoses representing opposite extremes of a dopamine-dependent spectrum of reward & motivation.



OBJECTIVES

Obj #1: Identify the prevalence of mood & motivational disorders in the same PD cohort.

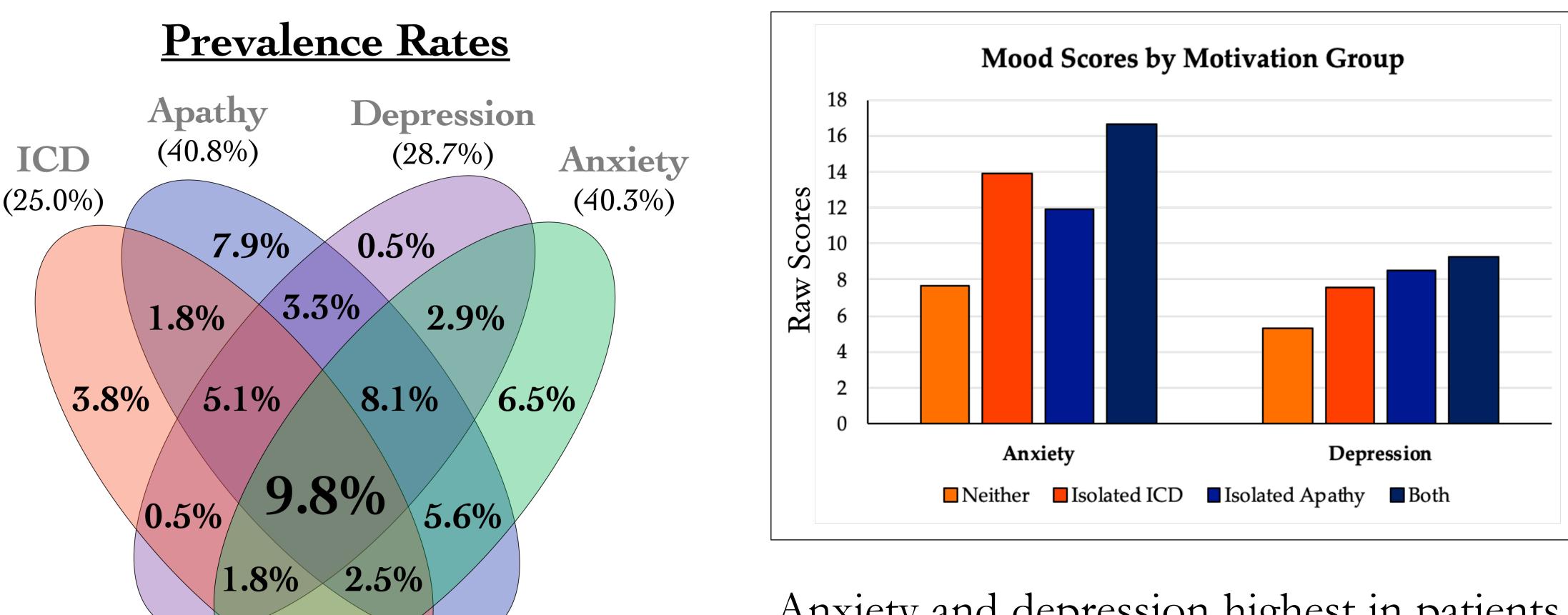
Obj #2: Examine the influence of mood on motivation subgroups.

METHOD

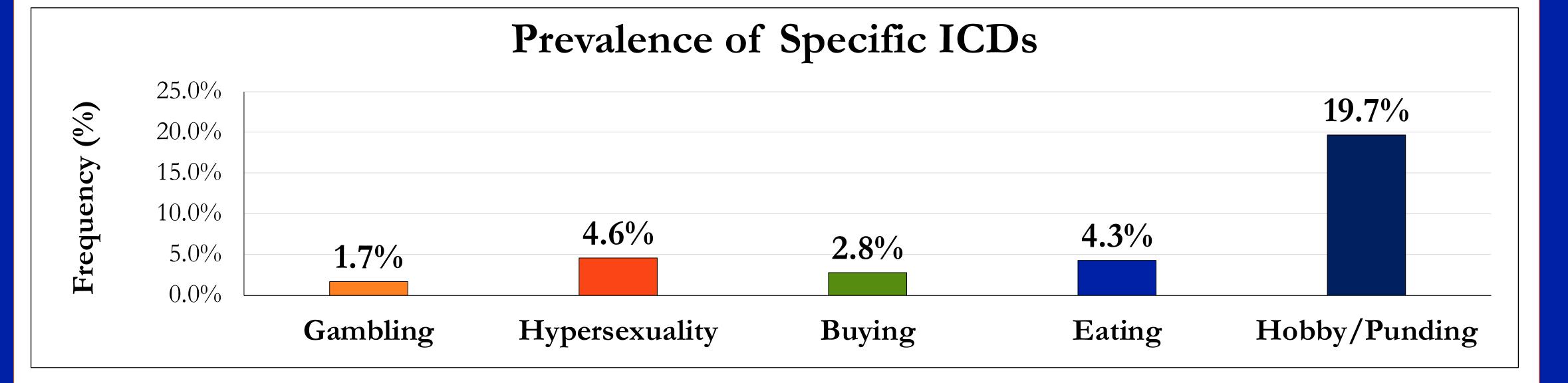
Clinical data for 897 patients (ages 39–98) with idiopathic PD were extracted from a retrospective database (INFORM).

Self-report measures included the BAI, BDI-II, AS and QUIP-RS.

RESULTS

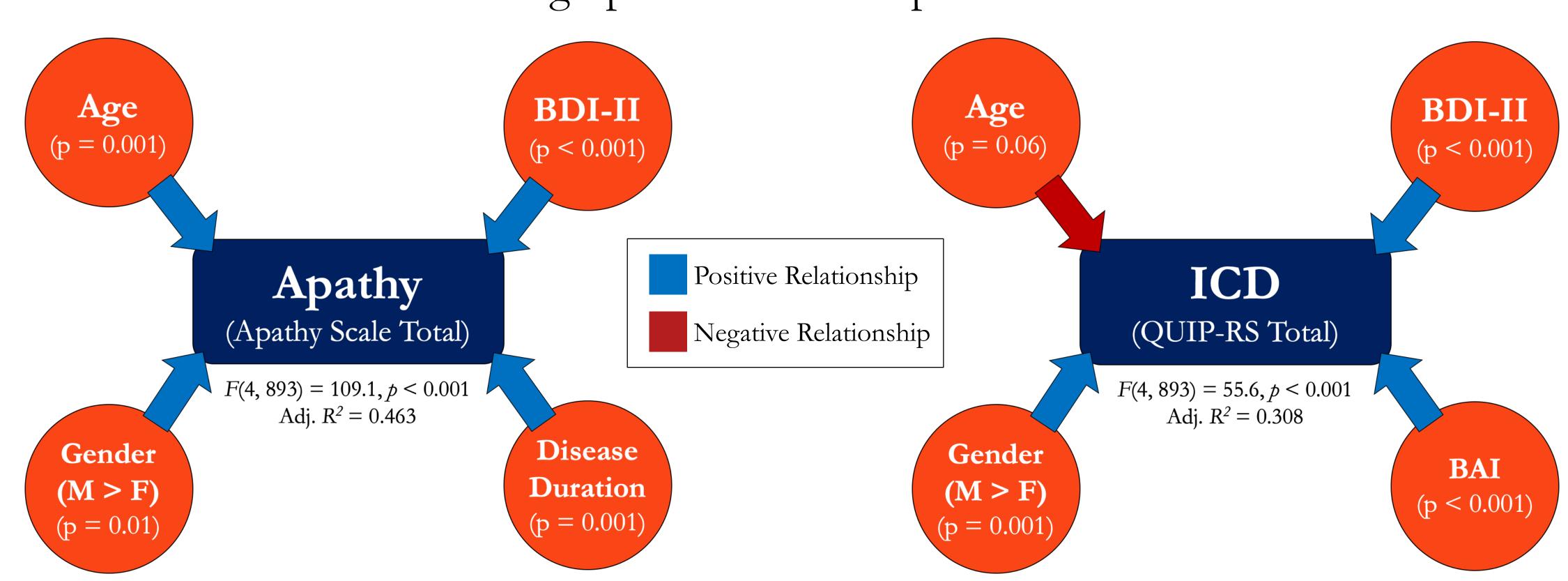


Anxiety and depression highest in patients with both apathy and one or more ICD.



3.1%

Mood interacted with demographic variables to predict motivational disturbances.



CONCLUSIONS

Results challenge the current conceptualization of apathy and ICDs as opposite ends on a spectrum of reward and motivation.

Findings suggest that apathy & ICDs are common comorbid conditions in patients with PD.

Apathy and ICDs also appear to interact with mood in clinically important ways.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Further work is needed to clarify the nature of the interactions between mood and motivation in Parkinson's patients.

Present findings may influence the design of future clinical trials and the development of novel therapies for apathy and ICDs.

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