

## **Clinical Boundary between Borderline Personality Disorder and Bipolar Disorder**

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The boundary between borderline personality disorder (BPD) and bipolar disorder (BD) is a controversial subject. It is very difficult to diagnose patients who present with both affective instability and impulsivity, in a clinical setting.

This poster addresses the question whether borderline personality disorder (BPD) can be understood as a variant of bipolar disorder. The proposal that BPD belongs to the bipolar spectrum depends on the assumption that affective instability exists in both diagnostic categories. There are major differences in phenomenology, family history, longitudinal course, and treatment response between BPD and bipolar disorder. Thus, existing evidence is insufficient to support the concept that BPD falls in the bipolar spectrum.

This poster reviews concepts and challenges related to the overlap of these disorders, including two different clinical cases, in which the differential diagnosis was very difficult to perform.