OBJECTIVE:
We examined whether some temperamenta
l traits would be associated with persistence of attention deficit-
hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in adulthood independent from bipolar disorder (BD).

METHODS:
Eighty-one ADHD patients without a comorbid diagnosis of BD were divided into two groups, those with
childhood ADHD (n=46), and those with Adulthood ADHD (n=35). The severity of childhood and adulthood
ADHD were assessed by using the Wender Utah Rating Scale (WURS-25) and Turgay's Adult ADD/ADHD
Diagnosis and Evaluation Scale (DES). Subjects' temperamental characteristics were examined using the
Temperament Evaluation of Memphis, Pisa, Paris and San Diego-auto questionnaire (TEMPS-A).

RESULTS:
The mean scores of WURS-25 were higher in adult ADHD group than in childhood ADHD group (p<0.001). Adult ADHD group had significantly higher scores on cyclothymic (p=0.002), irritable (p<0.0001), and anxious (p=0.042) subscales of TEMPS-A. The scores of WURS-25 in adulthood ADHD group were positively correlated with cyclothymia scores (r=0.366, p=0.033). Total scores of Turgay's Adult ADD/ADHD DES were positively correlated with cyclothymic (r=0.354, p=0.040), hyperthymic (r=0.380, p=0.026), and irritable (r=0.380, p=0.026) subscale scores. Cychlothymic and irritable temperaments were significantly associated with the severity of adulthood symptoms of ADHD.

CONCLUSION:
We might suggest that cyclothymic and irritable temperaments would predict the diagnosis of adulthood ADHD independent from BD.