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# PRETYPHOON PANIC ATTACK HISTORY MODERATES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DEGREE OF TYPHOON EXPOSURE AND POSTTYPHOON PTSD AND DEPRESSION IN A VIETNAMESE SAMPLE

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# Abstract

**Background**—Predisaster risk factors are related to postdisaster psychopathology even at relatively low levels of disaster exposure. A history of panic attacks (PA) may convey risk for postdisaster psychopathology and has been linked to a wide range of psychiatric disorders in Western and non-Western samples. The present study examined the main and interactive effects of pretyphoon PA and level of typhoon exposure in the onset of posttyphoon posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), major depression (MDD), and generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) in a Vietnamese sample of typhoon survivors.

**Methods**—Typhoon Xangsane interrupted a Vietnamese epidemiological mental health needs assessment, providing a rare opportunity for preand posttyphoon assessments. Hierarchical logistic

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regression analyses evaluated whether the main and interactive effects of typhoon exposure severity and PA history were significantly related to posttyphoon diagnoses, above and beyond age, health status, pretyphoon psychiatric screening results, and history of potentially traumatic events.

**Results**—PA history moderated the relationship between severity of typhoon exposure and posttyphoon PTSD and MDD, but not GAD. Specifically, greater degree of exposure to the typhoon was significantly related to increased likelihood of postdisaster PTSD and MDD among individuals without a history of PA, above and beyond variance accounted for by pretyphoon psychiatric screening results. Individuals with a history of PA evidenced greater risk for postdisaster PTSD and MDD regardless of severity of typhoon exposure.

**Conclusions**—Preexisting PA may affect the nature of the relationship between disaster characteristics and prevalence of postdisaster PTSD and MDD within Vietnamese samples.

#### Keywords

anxiety/anxiety disorders; depression; GAD/generalized anxiety disorder; panic attacks/ agoraphobia; PTSD/posttraumatic stress disorder; stress; trauma

# INTRODUCTION

Natural disasters are a significant public health concern because they affect the well being of a substantial number of individuals simultaneously; indeed, exposure has been related to risk for anxiety disorders, such as posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), and mood disorders.<sup>[1–6]</sup> Therefore, it is important to understand what factors predict the onset of psychiatric disorders following exposure to disasters. Doseresponse theory posits that as the magnitude of life stress increases, the likelihood of developing various forms of illness, as well as the severity of such illness, increases.<sup>[7]</sup> This theory has been applied in the traumatic stress literature, with consistent relationships being found between degree of trauma exposure (e.g. degree of personal threat, injury severity, duration of event, degree of acute life disruption) and subsequent onset or severity of psychiatric disorders, such as PTSD<sup>[8, 9]</sup> and depressive disorders.<sup>[10, 11]</sup> The degree of exposure to disasters is generally related to postdisaster psychiatric functioning, with greater disaster exposure being related to increased odds of postdisaster psychopathology.<sup>[1, 12]</sup> However, it is clear that trauma "dose" does not account for a majority of variance in posttrauma functioning.<sup>[8]</sup> For example, some individuals who experience relatively low levels of disaster exposure will meet criteria for new psychiatric disorders following exposure. Preexisting vulnerability factors, in addition to disaster-specific characteristics, are clearly important for identifying at-risk individuals in the wake of a disaster.

A history of panic attacks (PA) is one such preexisting vulnerability factor likely to be relevant to predicting postdisaster psychopathology. Prospective studies have found that PAs are a risk marker for a broad range of psychiatric disorders, such as anxiety disorders,<sup>[13,14]</sup> major depressive disorder (MDD),<sup>[13–16]</sup> substance use disorders,<sup>16</sup> and psychotic disorders.<sup>[17]</sup> Furthermore, existing theory and research conducted among trauma survivors from Cambodia indicate that PAs and PTSD may potentiate one another, presumably

through activation of fear networks. For example, it has been documented that the reexperiencing symptoms of PTSD can trigger PAs in such populations.<sup>[18]</sup> It is also possible that PAs are related to increased likelihood of psychopathology following an extreme stressor due to shared familial liability,<sup>[19]</sup> increased emotional and physiological fear responding during a traumatic event (i.e. a causal relationship), or a combination of the two. However, epidemiological investigations of PA and posttrauma psychopathology in non-Western populations are lacking. With regard to disaster exposure, PAs experienced during a disaster (i.e. peri-traumatic PAs) appear to be related to short term (e.g. one year postdisaster), but not necessarily long term, psychiatric diagnoses;<sup>[20–22]</sup> however, disaster studies examining panic-relevant risk have not explicitly examined the role of preexisting PAs.

To our knowledge, no studies have examined in a single model the relationships among a predisaster PA history, degree of disaster exposure, and postdisaster psychopathology. Additionally, there is limited disaster research available from non-Western samples.<sup>[5]</sup> Past studies have found relationships between PAs and psychopathology, particularly PTSD, in nondisaster, trauma-exposed Southeast Asian samples;<sup>[23, 24]</sup> however, our understanding of the role of PA history in relation the postdisaster context is lacking.

The current study takes advantage of unique data collected from a sample of individuals living in Da Nang, Vietnam who were exposed to Typhoon Xangsane in 2006. Typhoon Xangsane, equivalent to a Category 4 hurricane, was responsible for at least 72 deaths, hundreds of severe injuries, hundreds of millions of dollars in damages to Vietnam, and was responsible for leaving several hundred thousand Vietnamese homeless.<sup>[25, 26]</sup> A mental health needs assessment was being conducted in Vietnam through the Da Nang Department of Health and the Khanh Hoa Health Service when the typhoon hit, interrupting data collection, but allowing for an unplanned prepost disaster study. As is rarely the case in disaster studies due to the unpredictable nature of disasters, the current study has the benefit of inclusion of pretyphoon psychiatric data, allowing us to better control for preexisting psychopathology than is typically the case. Finally, the data collection occurring only a couple of months after the typhoon struck, allowing for ideal assessment of typhoon-related constructs.

The aim of the current study was to examine the main and interactive effects of pretyphoon PA history and degree of typhoon exposure in the onset of posttyphoon PTSD, MDD, and GAD, above and beyond the variance accounted for by psychiatric functioning assessed pretyphoon and history of potentially traumatic events (PTE). It was hypothesized that: (1) the main effects of severity of typhoon exposure and PA history would be related to increased odds of typhoon-related PTSD, MDD, and GAD; and (2) above and beyond the main effects, PA history would moderate the relationship between severity of typhoon exposure and posttyphoon PTSD, MDD, and GAD, such that individuals with a PA history would display elevated risk for psychopathology even at relatively low levels of exposure.

# METHOD

Full methodological details are provided elsewhere.<sup>[27]</sup> In brief, in 2006, the Da Nang Department of Health and the Khanh Hoa Health Service, in cooperation with several nongovernment organizations (NGOs) were conducting a mental health needs assessment using the World Health Organization's (WHO) brief screener. The initial data collection (Wave 1) occurred between August and October of 2006, with Typhoon Xangsane striking Da Nang province on October 26th. NGO study personnel consulted with the Disaster Research Education and Mentoring Center (DREM), in organizing Wave 2 (occurring between January 8 and January 15, 2007), a reassessment via clinical interview of approximately 800 participants who had been screened prior to the typhoon. All measures were peer-reviewed by both Vietnamese experts and consultants in the United States prior to administration; however, due to the short timeframe, no back-translation of the interview was possible.

For Wave 1, Vietnamese lay interviewers from Da Nang and Khanh Hoa received 6 days of training plus 1 day to review the measures prior to administration in the field. Surveys were completed within each household with interviews lasting approximately 2 hr each. For Wave 2, lay interviewers and physician interviewers conducted assessments and received the same training as the interviewers in Wave 1. Rates of all *DSM-IV* diagnoses were consistent between interviewer types.<sup>[28]</sup> The present investigation utilizes the posttyphoon (Wave 2) clinical interview diagnoses, as well as pretyphoon self-report data (Wave 1).

#### **SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Wave 1 participants were recruited through a four-stage cluster sampling strategy,<sup>[27]</sup> with random selection of 30 communes per province, three hamlets per commune, and 30 households per hamlet occurring. Household members ages 11 and older were offered participation. When Typhoon Xangsane hit Da Nang province, Wave 1 had been completed in 21 of the 30 communes. A subsample of Wave 1 adults from Da Nang was surveyed again posttyphoon (Wave 2). All Wave 1 participants aged 18 and over from Da Nang were pooled in a sample frame, and persons were randomly selected via computer, resulting in the selection of an average of 38 persons at each commune with a potential 20 substitutes per commune being generated in case participants could not be reached. These procedures yielded a total of 798 completed interviews, with full data available for 762 participants. Wave 2 participants were significantly older than those completing only Wave 1 [mean age (SD) = 41.7 years (16.5) and 34.8 years (18.6), respectively; t = -9.87, P < .001]. Wave 1 and 2 participants did not significantly differ with regard to sex distribution (% women = 52.4 and 56.0%, respectively).

#### VARIABLES

**Demographic Variables (Wave 1)**—Standard demographic variables were assessed (i.e. sex, marital status, occupational status, age).

**General Health Status (Wave 1)**—Item #1 of the WHO, Short Form-36 (SF-36, Version 2) was administered to assess individuals' overall health status.<sup>[29, 30]</sup> Specifically,

**Self-Reporting Questionnaire-20 (Wave 1)**—The SRQ-20 is a 20-item self-report screening measure developed by the WHO to assess the likelihood of an individual meeting criteria for any psychiatric disorder.<sup>[31]</sup> Respondents mark items dichotomously to indicate the presence or absence of symptoms over a 30-day recall period. Items include symptoms related to somatic (e.g. "Do you often have headaches?"); cognitive (e.g. "Do you have trouble thinking clearly?"), and emotional symptoms (e.g. "Do you feel nervous, tense, or worried?") relevant to a range of psychiatric conditions. Results are reported as "case" or "noncase" (i.e. positive versus negative screen); however, the contribution of individual items to a positive screen may be suggestive of a particular category of mental disorder. Based on recommendations in the literature<sup>[32, 33]</sup> and by the WHO,<sup>[31]</sup> a cut-off of 7/8 (i.e. 7 = probable negative screen; 8 = probable positive screen) was utilized. The SRQ-20 has been found to be reliable and valid in Vietnamese populations,<sup>[34]</sup> and high internal reliability was found in the present sample (Chronbach's  $\alpha = .87$ ).

**PTSD (Wave 2)**—Posttyphoon PTSD was assessed via the National Women's Study PTSD module (NWS-PTSD),<sup>[35]</sup> a widely used measure in population-based epidemiological research originally modified from the Diagnostic Interview Schedule. The NWS-PTSD has demonstrated concurrent validity and several forms of reliability (e.g. temporal stability, internal consistency, and diagnostic reliability)<sup>[36, 37]</sup> and was validated in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (*DSM-IV*), PTSD Field Trial against a well-established structured diagnostic interview administered by trained mental health professionals (Structured Clinical Interview for *DSM-IV*; SCID-IV<sup>[38]</sup>). We defined PTSD based on *DSM-IV* symptom requirements (i.e. 3 avoidance, 1 intrusion, and 2 arousal symptoms), including functional impairment. Past research in Southeast Asian populations has supported the use of a PTSD diagnosis based on *DSM-IV* criteria.<sup>[39]</sup> Among individuals endorsing traumatic event exposure, Cronbach's α was .86.

**MDD (Wave 2)**—Posttyphoon MDD was measured using a modified version of the SCID-IV<sup>[38]</sup> that targets MDD criteria using yes/no response formats for each *DSM-IV* symptom. Following *DSM-IV* criteria, respondents met criteria for MDD if they had five or more depressive symptoms for at least 2 weeks. Support for internal consistency and convergent validity exist for this measure.<sup>[37]</sup> Cronbach's  $\alpha$  for this sample for individuals screening into the module was .82.

**GAD (Wave 2)**—Posttyphoon GAD was also measured using a modified version of the SCID-IV,<sup>[38]</sup> with items corresponding directly to *DSM-IV* criteria for GAD using yes/no response options. A positive diagnosis of GAD required excessive and poorly controlled anxiety and worry occurring more days than not "since the typhoon," as well as three of six hallmark GAD symptoms, including restlessness, fatigue, concentration problems,

irritability, tension, and sleep disturbance. This scale showed good internal consistency in the current sample among individuals screening into the module (Cronbach's  $\alpha = .85$ ).

**PA History (Wave 2)**—Pretyphoon PAs were measured posttyphoon using a modified version of the SCID-IV<sup>[38]</sup> that included yes/no questions corresponding directly to *DSM-IV* criteria. Participants were designated as having a pretyphoon PA history if: (1) they endorsed four or more *DSM-IV* PA symptoms occurring within a single panic episode, and (2) the age at the Wave 1 assessment was greater than the age of onset of the PAs. A dichotomous variable was created (0 = no pretyphoon PA history, 1 = pretyphoon PA history). Participants (n = 44) endorsing PA onset post-Wave 1 were coded as having no history of pretyphoon PAs.

**PTE Exposure (Wave 2)**—Participants were asked if they had been exposed to (1) a natural disaster (other than the current typhoon), (2) a serious motor vehicle accident, (3) a weapon attack, (4) an attack without a weapon, (5) military combat or a war zone, and (6) sexual exploitation/violence. All lifetime events were assessed for Criterion A2, and a dichotomous variable of at least one previous Criterion A PTE versus no previous Criterion A PTE exposures was created.

**Typhoon Exposure (Wave 2)**—As reported in our prior research with hurricanes,<sup>[6, 26, 40]</sup> typhoon exposure was measured as a sum of yes–no responses (possible range = 0–7) to the following questions: (1) "Did you evacuate from the place you were living because of the storm?" (2) "Whether you evacuated or not, were you personally present when Typhoon-force winds or major flooding occurred?" (3) "Did the storm damage the place you were living or other personal property?" (4) "Because of the typhoon damage, were you unable to live in your home?" (5) "Whether you evacuated or not, how afraid were you during the typhoon that you might be killed or seriously injured during the storm?" (assessed on a 4-point scale and dichotomized as 0 = little to no threat of injury, 1 = moderate to severe threat of injury to be consistent with past work<sup>[27]</sup> and to avoid giving additional weight to one item in a 7-item scale comprised of dichotomous items) (6) "Were you injured during or after the storm?" and (7) "Was any member of your family injured or killed during or after the storm?"

### DATA ANALYTIC PLAN

Analyses were conducted in PASW Statistics 18.0. First, bivariate relations were evaluated between the predictor and criterion variables using  $\chi^2$  analyses. Second, a series of hierarchical logistic regression analyses was conducted to evaluate whether the main and interactive effects of typhoon exposure severity and PA history (yes/no) were significantly related to typhoon-related diagnoses of PTSD, MDD, and GAD. The covariates of PTE history (yes/no), pretyphoon psychiatric screening results (i.e. SRQ-20 caseness; yes/no), age, and health status were entered into step one of the regression equations, given that these factors have evidenced significant bivariate relationships with posttyphoon diagnoses in this sample. Conversely, other factors such as religious affiliation, sex, and marital status were not included due to a lack of significance in past investigations with this sample.<sup>[27]</sup> The main effects of typhoon exposure severity (mean centered) and PA history were entered at

step two. The interaction term (product of main effects) was entered at step three. The criterion variables were diagnoses of posttyphoon PTSD, MDD, and GAD. The forms of significant interactions were subsequently examined both graphically<sup>[41]</sup> and statistically<sup>[42]</sup> to examine the significance of the relationship between the predictor (i.e. typhoon exposure) and outcome variables at both values of the moderator (i.e. PA history) above and beyond the covariates.

# RESULTS

See Table 1 for sample characteristics. Individuals with, compared to without, a history of one or more PTEs were more likely to endorse a history of PAs (20.5 versus 4.1%, respectively;  $\chi^2 = 50.56$ , P < .001). As shown in Table 2, severity of typhoon exposure was categorized as low (severity score of 0–2), moderate (score of 3–4), or high (score of 5–7) for presentation of descriptive data in order to facilitate interpretation (i.e. categories were not utilized in the primary analyses). Pretyphoon PA history was significantly related to PTSD ( $\chi^2 = 41.73$ , P < .001), MDD ( $\chi^2 = 71.91$ , P < .001), and GAD ( $\chi^2 = 10.50$ , P = .001) diagnoses at the bivariate level. Severity of typhoon exposure also was significantly related to PTSD ( $\chi^2 = 20.81$ , P < .001), MDD ( $\chi^2 = 58.37$ , P < .001), and GAD ( $\chi^2 = 8.56$ , P < .05) diagnoses.

A positive PTE history and pretyphoon SRQ-20 caseness were significantly related to increased odds of meeting criteria for PTSD and MDD (see Table 3). The main effects of typhoon exposure severity and pretyphoon PA history significantly predicted PTSD and MDD diagnoses, with greater levels of typhoon exposure and a history of PAs being related to increased odds of diagnoses. The interaction term significantly predicted PTSD and MDD diagnoses above and beyond the main effects and covariates. Examination of the interactions indicated that: (a) the relationship between severity of typhoon exposure and PTSD was significant only among individuals without (OR = 2.51, 95% CI = 1.33–4.71,  $\beta = .92$ , P < . 01) compared to with (OR = .70, 95% CI = .44-1.74,  $\beta = -.13$ , P = .70) a PA history, and (b) the relationship between severity of typhoon exposure and MDD also was significant only among individuals without (OR = 4.03, 95% CI = 2.37-6.84,  $\beta = 1.39$ , P < .001) compared to with (OR = 1.49, 95% CI = .77-2.88,  $\beta = .40$ , p = .24) a PA history (see Fig. 1).<sup>1</sup> For GAD, pretyphoon SRQ-20 caseness and greater severity of typhoon exposure were the only variables in the model related to increased likelihood of a GAD diagnosis.

## DISCUSSION

The present study examined the role of pretyphoon PA history and severity of typhoon exposure in the development of posttyphoon PTSD, MDD, and GAD in a representative sample of Vietnamese typhoon survivors. Consistent with hypotheses, higher levels of typhoon exposure and a history of PAs were associated with increased odds of posttyphoon diagnoses of PTSD and MDD, above and beyond age, health status, PTE history, and Wave

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Note that examination of Fig. 1 reveals that for those with a history of panic attacks, the frequency of PTSD diagnosis is slightly higher among those with lower, compared to higher, levels of typhoon exposure; however, statistical probing indicated that this difference is not statistically significant.

Depress Anxiety. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2014 June 24.

1 psychiatric screening. Greater typhoon exposure, but not PA history, was associated with increased odds of posttyphoon GAD.

Enhancing the previously established link between severity of disaster exposure to increased likelihood for postdisaster psychiatric disorders, the novel contribution of the current study is in sampling survivors from a non-Western community and in the availability of pretyphoon psychiatric screening data. The previously displayed relationships between PAs and a variety of types of psychopathology<sup>[43]</sup> were replicated in this study among Vietnamese typhoon survivors, although limited to posttyphoon PTSD and MDD, but not GAD.

Above and beyond the main effects, PA history moderated the relationship between severity of typhoon exposure and posttyphoon PTSD and MDD, but not GAD. Specifically, degree of typhoon exposure was significantly related to postdisaster PTSD and MDD among individuals without a history of PAs. However, the relationship between severity of exposure and posttyphoon PTSD and MDD was not significant among those with a history of PAs. Individuals with a history of PAs may be more sensitive to the impact of any level of trauma on subsequent psychiatric functioning. This finding is consistent with the available, albeit limited, laboratory data indicating that panic reactivity is related to decreased tolerance to subsequent stressors.<sup>[44]</sup> Replication of the findings is needed to draw firm conclusions about the nature of the observed relationships.

Assessment of PA history may aid in the identification of those at increased risk for postdisaster psychopathology, as well as provide a potential opportunity for the development of early intervention programs. For example, a brief interoceptive exposure intervention postdisaster to decrease reactivity to symptoms of arousal (e.g. Anxiety Sensitivity Amelioration Training<sup>[45]</sup>) may be beneficial for those with a PA history. Existing literature provides some evidence for the efficacy of behavioral interventions on postdisaster distress,<sup>[46]</sup> as well as psychological first aid.<sup>[47]</sup> Conversely, individuals without preexisting psychiatric vulnerabilities who are potentially high-risk may be best identified by external factors (e.g. degree of disaster exposure). The current findings also may provide ancillary support for the utility of investigating combined treatments among individuals from Southeast Asia who suffer from cooccurring PTSD and PAs, such as that reported by Hinton et al.<sup>[48]</sup> It is possible that addressing PAs and anxiety sensitivity (i.e. fear of anxiety and related sensations<sup>[49]</sup>) explicitly in such treatments could be beneficial for preventing relapse of PTSD and related conditions, as well as facilitating primary PTSD treatment efforts.

The study has a number of limitations, many stemming from the deviations from its original design as a needs assessment survey, which did not include a thorough psychiatric assessment. First, the temporal relationships among PTE history, pretyphoon PAs, pretyphoon psychiatric diagnoses, and posttyphoon functioning cannot be definitively determined given the study design. For example, pretyphoon PA history was assessed posttyphoon (i.e. at Wave 2). It is possible that individuals experiencing greater levels of distress following the typhoon were more likely to endorse a lifetime history of PAs, or that pretyphoon PAs reflect greater rates of pretyphoon psychiatric diagnoses; therefore replication utilizing prospective assessment for all key variables is needed. Second,

measures were not validated in Vietnamese populations specifically. Third, a new set of interviewers was added to the second wave of data collection. Although no differences were noted on DSM-IV diagnoses, interviewer effects may be present. Fourth, all data relied on participants' self-report. Fifth, the current study did not assess individual differences in anxiety sensitivity, a well-established vulnerability factor for panic-spectrum psychopathology and PTSD in Western and Southeast Asian populations.<sup>[50-52]</sup> which limits our ability to conclude that a history of PAs rather than anxiety sensitivity accounted for the observed effects. In addition, the SRQ-20 screens for past 30-day psychiatric symptoms (lifetime data are not available), and diagnostic data on lifetime psychiatric diagnoses were not obtained at Wave 1 (only Wave 2). Similarly, a number of community and family variables may be important to consider in future investigations of disaster responding.<sup>[5]</sup> Taken together, there are a number of important pretyphoon characteristics that were not adequately assessed in the current investigation and should be considered in alternate explanations of the present findings. Sixth, participants in Wave 2 of the study were significantly older than those only participating in Wave 1. It is unclear whether this has an effect on the current findings, but one could question the generalizability of the Wave 2 sample to the original full sample. Finally, there is evidence indicating that culture-specific manifestations of panic exist (e.g. "orthostatic PAs" - dizziness experienced as a result of standing up from sitting or lying down).<sup>[53]</sup> Therefore, future studies in non-Western samples, particularly disaster-exposed samples that have not been targeted in past investigations of orthostatic panic, would benefit from a broader, culturally informed assessment.

## CONCLUSION

The present study documented a moderating role of predisaster PAs in the relationship between severity of disaster exposure and postdisaster PTSD and MDD in a representative sample of Vietnamese typhoon survivors. Further study regarding the nature of this relationship may aid in surveillance efforts and development of tailored interventions for individuals vulnerable to postdisaster psychopathology.

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Page 13



#### Figure 1.

Pretyphoon panic attack history moderating the relationship between typhoon exposure severity and PTSD/major depression diagnoses.

*Note:* Low and high exposure = 1 SD below and above the mean on typhoon exposure severity; \* = significant slope based on statistical probing analyses.

#### TABLE 1

# Sample characteristics (N = 762)

Variable	Mean (SD) or%
Sex (% female)	55.9
Age (years)	41.2 (16.2)
Marital status	
Single	18.9
Married	70.1
Divorced/separated	2.8
Widowed	8.3
Employment status	
Unemployed/unable to work	3.0
Retired	13.9
Works in the home	8.8
Student	4.2
Employed	70.1
General health status (% "poor health")	71.3
Criterion A traumatic event history (% positive)	45.1
Natural disaster (other than current typhoon)	23.5
Serious motor vehicle accident	18.5
Attacked with a weapon	6.7
Attacked (no weapon)	4.1
Combat or war zone exposure	21.8
Sexual exploitation/violence	10.1
Pretyphoon panic attack history (% positive)	18.1
Pretyphoon SRQ-20 Screen (% positive)	19.5
Posttyphoon psychiatric diagnoses <sup>a</sup>	
Posttraumatic stress disorder	2.5
Major depression	5.9
Generalized anxiety disorder	2.2
Panic disorder	9.3

 $^a{\rm 1.7\%}$  of the sample met criteria for comorbid PTSD and MDD posttyphoon.

#### TABLE 2

Pretyphoon panic attack history and typhoon exposure severity in relation to rates of typhoon-related PTSD, major depression, and GAD

Variable	% (n) PTSD	% (n) Major depression	% (n) GAD
Panic attack history			
Negative (81.9%)	0.9 (6)	2.8 (17)	1.4 (9)
Positive (18.1%)	10.7 (14)	24.0 (25)	5.8 (8)
Typhoon exposure			
Low (32.5%)	0 (0)	0.8 (2)	0.4 (1)
Moderate (48.2%)	2.4 (9)	4.3 (15)	2.4 (9)
High (19.2%)	7.4 (11)	20.3 (25)	4.7 (7)
Total sample	2.6 (20)	5.9 (42)	2.2 (17)

#### TABLE 3

Logistic regression results: prediction of typhoon-related PTSD, major depression, and GAD

Variable	OR	95% CI	β	Wald coefficient
	Р			
Step 1				
Age	.99	.95-1.02	02	.86
General health status	1.08	.30–3.89	.08	.02
PTE history	5.29*	1.43-19.65	1.67	6.20
Pretyphoon SRQ-20 caseness	3.80*	1.22-10.83	1.34	6.23
Step 2				
Typhoon exposure	1.64*	1.06-2.55	.49	4.82
Pretyphoon panic attack history	5.38**	1.85–15.71	1.68	9.50
Step 3				
Interaction term	.36*	.14–.88	-1.04	5.05
Major depression				
Step 1				
Age	1.01	.99–1.03	.01	1.01
General health status	2.67	.97–7.37	.98	3.57
PTE history	3.26**	1.45-7.36	1.18	8.13
Pretyphoon SRQ-20 caseness	2.26*	1.12-4.59	.82	5.12
Step 2				
Typhoon exposure	2.57***	1.79–3.70	.95	26.24
Pretyphoon panic attack history	6.35***	2.80-14.40	1.85	19.53
Step 3				
Interaction term	.31**	.14–.67	-1.18	8.91
GAD				
Step 1				
Age	1.02	.99–1.05	.02	1.21
General health status	4.81	.58–39.90	1.57	2.12
PTE history	1.33	.41-4.31	.28	.22
Pretyphoon SRQ-20 caseness	3.31*	1.16–9.44	1.20	5.02
Step 2				
Typhoon exposure	1.66*	1.07-2.58	.51	5.11
Pretyphoon panic attack history	1.91	.60–6.10	.65	1.18
Step 3				
Interaction term	.97	.36-2.70	02	.00

P < .05;

 $^{***}_{P < .001.}$ 

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