Persian has two indefinite markers, the prenominal ye(k) and the suffixed –i. Both forms express particular kinds of indefiniteness as does their combination: Indefinites with -i express a non-uniqueness or anti-definite implication and behave similar to English any. Ye(k), on the other hand, expresses an at-issue existence implication and behaves similar to English a(n). The combination ye(k) NP-i expresses an anti-singleton implication and behaves similar to English some or other (Jasbi, 2016). The marker –e can be combined with ye(k), as in (1), but not with (solitary) –i, as in (2). While the Differential Object Marker –ra/ro is also compatible with a non-specific reading, its combination with the marker –e allows only for a specific interpretation, as in (3).

(1) Ye(k) pesar-e-(i) inja kar mikone.
   A boy-E-(i) here work do.3SG.
   ‘A/some (specific) boy works here.’

(2) *Pesar-e-i inja kar mikone.
    boy-E-i here work do.3SG.
    ‘*Any (specific) boy works here.’

(3) Man mikham shoro konam ye(k) ketab-e-i-ro bekunam.
    I want.1SG begin do.1SG a book-E-i-DOM read.1SG.
    ‘I want to start reading a book.’

Based on these and further observations, we argue that –e is a specificity marker, while DOM in Persian has a different pragmatic function.