

VISUAL EVOKED POTENTIALS IN EVALUATING SUDDEN VISUAL LOSS IN ADOLESCENTS: A PSYCHOSOMATIC PERSPECTIVE

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Dissociative disorder is a psychiatric illness characterised by signs and symptoms that cannot be associated with medical pathology. It is estimated that 25% of all patients have some form of dissociative disorder. In our paper we described 12 patients with sudden loss of visual acuity as a main symptom. Visual evoked potential testing proved that there was no organic disease involving visual pathway. After extensive examination they have been diagnosed as dissociative disorders. Their symptoms improved after psychiatric treatment. It is important for clinician to keep this diagnosis in mind and to recognize patients that might be suffering from this disorder. Making proper diagnosis correctly and on time is vital for successful treatment.

Key words: dissociative disorders - conversion disorder - visual loss - visual evoked potentials - psychosomatic

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COMORBIDITY OF DISSOCIATIVE MOTOR DISORDER WITH ORGANIC IMPAIRMENT - CASE REPORT

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Dissociative disorder is a partial or a complete loss of the normal integration between the sense of identity, memories of the past, sensory impression and control of voluntary movements. Diagnosis should be stated only after excluding active psychoactive substance use, neurological disorders and disorders associated with somatic conditions. We are describing a patient who had comorbidity of organic impairment while diagnosing dissociative disorder. A 36-year-old male was admitted to the Clinic for Psychiatry, University Hospital Centre (UHC) Split, Croatia, because of difficulty in walking and involuntary movements due to constant muscle contractions throughout whole body, with predominantly intense in diaphragm and upper extremities. Motoric symptoms began several months after a cerebellar tumor surgery in 2006. Despite organic impairment due to tumor incision, after extensive somatic diagnostic processing, the organic cause of his condition has not been detected. The patient was treated with psychotherapy, psychopharmacotherapy and physical therapy. After 22 days of intensive hospital treatment, the patient was discharged in improved, both, mental and physical condition

Key words: dissociative disorder - spasm - psychotherapy - psychopharmacotherapy - pilocytic astrocytoma

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HOW TO SQUARE A CIRCLE?

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Psychodynamic group psychotherapy in Daily Hospital for non-psychotic disorders was held through Hangouts program during CoViD-19 pandemic lockdown. In our pilot study we compared patients' impressions and their satisfaction with online program vs. usual, in-person setting program. We analyzed the impressions of group therapists as well. Our conclusion is that according to our patients' impressions and satisfaction, online psychodynamic group psychotherapy is good enough option in extreme situations such as infectious disease pandemic, although it cannot completely replace all the aspects of usual "live" setting.

Key words: online group therapy - group setting - CoViD-19 pandemic - daily hospital

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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PERFECTIONISM AND ANGER IN ADOLESCENTS

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Background: As a contribution to the dimensional classification of mental disorders, which in the next edition of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) could dominate over the categorical, and in general, due to the impact of anger on the behavior of individuals in our society, it seems important to examine and analyze dimensions that represent risk factors for occurrence and development of anger disorders. **Aim:** To examine gender differences in the expression of the adaptive and maladaptive dimensions of perfectionism and anger (state and trait, as well as the anger expression and control) and to examine whether the dimensions of perfectionism are statistically significant predictors of anger.

Subjects and methods: This study included a total of 600 primary and secondary school students (305 girls and 295 boys), 12 to 18 years old. Data were collected using a Socio-demographic Features Questionnaire for general information onto the Adaptive/Maladaptive Perfectionism Scale (AMPS), Child-Adolescent Perfectionism Scale (CAPS), and State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory-2 Child and Adolescent (STAXI-2 C/A).

Results: Statistically significant gender differences were found in the expression of the adaptive and maladaptive dimensions of perfectionism and anger. For aspects of anger, girls have been found to control their anger more often than boys. Multiple regression analysis indicates the important contribution of the dimensions of perfectionism in the explanation of anger in adolescents.

Conclusion: Given the results obtained, our research represents a contribution to the definition of a dimensional diagnostic system to prevent comorbidity of mental disorders and provide more clinically relevant information about each individual. The instrument which is used to measure anger in this study (STAXI-2 C/A; Brunner & Spielberger 2009) was for the first time applied in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The results of this research are a contribution to its validation.

Key words: perfectionism - anger - adolescents

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PSYCHOGENIC STUTTERING - CASE REPORT

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Stuttering is a speech disorder characterized by the involuntary repetition, extension or cessation of sound. Psychogenic stuttering is a conversion symptom whose cause is emotional in its nature. Conversive disorder is a change in physical functioning that seems to suggest a physical disorder but is in fact an expression of a particular psychic conflict. The appearance of stuttering in adulthood can be the result of psychological trauma.

In this report a 50-year-old female patient who has been in psychiatric treatment (pharmacotherapy and psychotherapy) for the last eight years will be presented. She has been treated for recurrent depressive disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder and histrionic personality disorder and has been in inpatient treatment several times.

The patient lost consciousness a year ago, suffering a concussion. The aforementioned occurred after ingestion of a larger quantity of prescribed psychotropic medication which she took in an attempt to subside polymorphic locomotor issues. She has since started to stutter and has lost hearing in her left ear.

Differential diagnosis between psychogenic and neurological stuttering is complex and demanding and requires individualized and multidisciplinary treatment of the patient.

Key words: psychogenic stuttering - conversive disorder - histrionic personality disorder

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