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Shared psychotic disorder: A case of a shared psychotic delusion between two sisters

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Background: Shared Psychotic Delusion (PSD) is a fascinating and poorly understood psychological disorder. Over the years, it has been referred to SPD as (Folie à deux, induced psychotic disorder) it was renamed recently as Shared Psychotic Disorder as mentioned on DSM-5. SPD is characterized by the transference of delusions from an individual (the primary patient), who suffers already from a psychotic disorder, to an individual or individuals (the secondary patient) who are in close association and relative social isolation in a frame of complex and dependent relationship.

Aim: 1. Demonstrating a case of shared psychotic disorder, 2. Emphasizing on the importance of recognizing such rare cases, 3. Providing a brief literature review about the disease.

Case summary: A schizophrenic young female has transmitted her bizarre delusion of misidentification to her mentally sane yet passive sister after a period of total isolation and a complex dependent relationship. Use of antipsychotic had led to significant improvement of the schizophrenic and simple physical separation cured the other

Conclusion: SPD often causes diagnostic problems and might be hard to distinguish from an independent, endogenous psychosis, especially when found in consanguineous individuals. It is important to recognize such cases due to the potential for recovery in the secondary patient. and to incorporate the appropriate treatment modalities

Biography

Lina Abugharara is passionate about the field of Psychiatry and Mental Health. She is currently an intern in King Fahad Hospital of the University. In 2016, she took her degree of MBBS from the College of Medicine, University of Dammam, KSA. She is currently working in the field of Medicine. Recently, she published a research titled, "Spectrum of viral skin infection in patient attending the Dermatology Clinic at King Fahad Hospital of the university during the period 2010-2014".

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