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Jealousy and morbid jealousy (from overvalued ideas to delusion)

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Jealousy is a complex emotion, albeit common and normal. The designation "morbid jealousy" encompasses a variety of affective, thought and judging disturbances, in which the dominant motif is the sexual infidelity of the partner, based on groundless evidence. The overall prevalence is unknown, and despite being classically assumed as a rare entity it is frequently encountered in the clinical practice. To know which diagnosis may be associated with these disturbances, and to be aware of the violence risk associated are essential features for the clinical management of such presentations. The present poster aims to review the concept of jealousy and its pathologic equivalent, morbid jealousy, focusing on its various phenomenological expressions, its diagnostic significance and the main theoretical models on its etiology. This review was based on a search on PubMed, from inception through March 2016, including references of eligible articles. We included the terms "morbid jealousy" and "delusion of infidelity". Only English language studies were selected. Two reviewers independently reviewed the titles, abstracts, and articles. Conclusions: Jealousy seems to display a normative role in the sexual couples' dynamic. The various phenomenological presentations of morbid jealousy are usually found to be a co-morbidity of other psychiatric conditions. Several comprehensive etiological models have emerged throughout the last century, from which the psychodynamic and the cognitive models stand out. This is a very important subject for health professionals in general and psychiatrists in particular, since its well establish that it poses a high risk of suicide and homicide.

Biography

Alexandre Pértega-Gomes graduated from Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas de Abel Salazar (2008-2014), Universidade do Porto, Portugal. He is a scholarship student (2013/2014) in LKH-Univ. Klinikum Graz, Austria and Univerza v Mariboru, Slovenia. He has obtained his Master's thesis on Psychiatric Rehabilitation, in cooperation with Hospital de Magalhães Lemos, Porto, Portugal. He has obtained Internship in 2015 from Unidade Local de Saúde do Alto Minho, Viana do Castelo, Portugal. Currently he is attending the Psychiatry Residency in Hospital Psiquiátrico de Faro, Centro Hospitalar do Algarve, Portugal.

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