

Advances in Meeting the Needs of Open Access: From the Field of Psychiatric Disorders to General Public

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Psychiatric disorders are highly prevalent. According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), psychiatric disorders are common throughout the U.S., affecting tens of millions of people each year, and that only a fraction of those affected receive treatment. Many of the psychiatric disorders are highly inherited. For example, the defective heredity of schizophrenia is over 70 percent. The highest risks, 100%, were shown to be present in monozygotic twin pairs based on many independent twin studies [1]. Understanding the scope, causes, classification and treatment of the psychiatric disorders becomes the central mission of this research field internationally. To achieve this mission, both researchers and general public need to be kept updated on any important new progress in this field.

It took people centuries to realize that psychiatric disorders are genetic inherited organic physical phenomena, instead of a mixture of the divine, diabolical, and magical considerations. Even now, many people, especially in developing countries, still connect psychiatric syndromes to the soul or moral responsibility. Limited access to the professional research articles, books, media reports, and other resources significantly prevent the general public from developing proper conceptions of psychiatric disorders. Recently, the development of open access publications has been providing unrestricted access via the internet of peer-reviewed scholarly journal articles, monographs

and book chapters. Journal of Genetic Syndromes & Gene Therapy (JGSGT) is an open access journal in the OMICS Group, which publishes exciting current researches with respect to the subjects of genetic syndromes, including psychiatric disorders. Compare to the subscription-based journals in this field, JGSGT provides a rapid turn-around time for reviewing and publishing, and disseminates the articles freely to general public via internet. It will thus allow the worldwide audience to know the most recent research progress of the psychiatric and other genetic disorders. On the other hand, it increases the visibility and impact of the published work by giving barrier-free access to the literature. These features are of great importance in helping researchers and the general public to improve the understanding of the causes and substrates of the genetic disorders.

The well being of people with genetic disorders, psychiatric disorders specifically, continues to be the major concern of the affected families and governments globally. Although challenges exist for accomplishing this goal, open access research resources, such as JGSGT, dedicate to remove potential barriers and speed up our steps.

Reference

1. DeLisi LE (1992) The significance of age of onset for schizophrenia. *Schizoph Bull* 18: 209-215.

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