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Observational Study Published Date: - 2023-07-18

Challenges and Concerns of Parents with Children with Down Syndrome

Down syndrome is a common chromosomal abnormality that affects individuals in their physical, cognitive, and social development. The diagnosis of this syndrome in a newborn can be challenging for parents as it may disrupt family dynamics. In this study, we describe the different aspects of the impact of Down syndrome on parents, including psychological, social, and familial impacts. 55 cases participated in this survey; the average age of parents was 34 years old, and mothers represented 96% of the participants. 70% of cases were from urban areas. The average time between diagnosis and parental evaluation was 32.7 months. In 57% of families, the diagnosis of Down syndrome was established only after the third month of pregnancy, and only 5% obtained it during the prenatal period. Depression was reported in 32% of mothers at the time of diagnosis, while one mother exhibited persistent denial of her child's disability. 30% of families indicated that their child with Down syndrome was the source of tension within the couple and that learning difficulties were the main factor of tension, while 1% eventually divorced. 5% of parents regretted having a child with Down syndrome. All mothers expressed concerns about their child's future and are in favor of the establishment of a national screening program for trisomy 21 and dedicated learning centers to ensure social and professional integration.

Research Article Published Date: - 2023-06-21

The Role of Buspirone in the Treatment of Patients with Paranoid Schizophrenia with Non-Suicidal Auto Aggression Who Have Had a Coronavirus Infection

The relevance of this work is due to the insufficient number of modern studies on the treatment of patients with paranoid schizophrenia with non-suicidal autoaggressive actions or in short: "NSAA", who have had a coronavirus infection. The aim of the study was to study the role of buspirone in the complex therapy of patients with paranoid schizophrenia with NSAA who had a coronavirus infection.

Materials and research methods: 99 patients with paranoid schizophrenia meeting ICD-10 criteria were examined by a continuous, non-randomized clinical method. Fisher's test was used for statistical evaluation.

Results: It was established that the consequence of the coronavirus infection was an increase in the proportion of residual organic changes in the form of manifestations of the dysphoric syndrome, specific changes in the cognitive sphere, and the autonomic nervous system. The manifestations of dysphoria included an increase in the frequency of openly manifested aggression, anxiety, impulsivity, and the implementation of NSAA by the type of affective discharge. The structure of acquired cognitive impairments consisted of changes in thinking by the type of thoroughness, and rigidity of perseveration. Changes in the autonomic nervous system are presented in the form of diencephalic crises. Also, psychotic states not characteristic of the previously examined patients were noted, such as twilight stupefaction, delusional symptoms of Cappgras, Fregoli, and tactile hallucinosis. It has been established that the use of buspirone as part of complex therapy with neuroleptics, compared with monotherapy with neuroleptics, increases the effectiveness of therapy in relation to these clinical manifestations in the studied individuals.

Conclusion: The use of buspirone in combination with neuroleptic drugs increases the effectiveness of therapy in relation to the leading psychopathological manifestations in patients with paranoid schizophrenia with NSAA who have undergone coronavirus infection.

Case Report Published Date: 2023-03-10

Assessment of self-injurious behavior in major depressive disorder: a case report

Introduction: Self-harm and depression are two related mental health issues that often co-occur and can have serious impacts on individuals and their well-being. Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) is a complex and multifaceted mental health condition that is prevalent among young adults. It is a significant public health concern that affects individuals, families and society as a whole, contributing to considerable social, economic, and health-related costs. Despite the high prevalence of depression in young adults, there is a lack of understanding of its etiology, risk factors, and optimal treatment strategies. Self-harm behavior is a concerning manifestation of MDD that can have serious consequences, including injury, infection, or even death.

Methods: In this article, we report a case of an MDD patient with self-harm behavior and discuss the assessment method and treatment options. Our aim is to raise awareness of these pathologies among psychiatrists and the general population and to highlight the importance of early diagnosis and effective treatment in reducing the risk of self-harm behavior and suicide.

Conclusion: In light of the case presented, it is evident that early detection and targeted intervention are crucial in mitigating the risk of self-injurious behavior in MDD patients. The utilization of a comprehensive assessment methodology, inclusive of a thorough review of the patient's clinical history and utilization of standardized rating scales, proved indispensable in the tailoring of an individualized treatment regimen. The amalgamation of pharmacotherapy and psychotherapy proved to be a successful strategy in the amelioration of depressive symptoms and consequent self-harm behavior. As such, we trust that this case report will serve to sensitize clinicians to the importance of early identification and prompt management of these pathologies, in the quest for enhanced mental health outcomes.

Opinion Published Date: 2023-03-03

Responding to disasters: about the governance of post-nuclear accident situations

Every society organizes itself to reduce the complexity of living together in order to ensure relative peace of mind for its members. Major technological accidents such as the Chernobyl or Fukushima nuclear accidents are violent disruptions that affect the quality of life of tens of thousands of people and generate increased distrust and anxiety among them as well as the questioning of the state system's ability to restore some peace of mind. Past experience has shown that the measurement of radiation and the development of local projects with the support of professionals and experts prove to be effective levers for those affected to regain the ability to make decisions for their protection and to assess the protective actions implemented collectively. It also showed that restoring confidence and restoring the dignity of these people, seriously impaired by the accident, takes time.