

EPV1719

Psychological Symptoms in Family of Death Patients with infectious diseases

G. Lacatusu^{1*}, C. Sapaniuc¹ and D. Manciu²¹Hospital of Infectious Diseases "Sf. Parascheva", Infectious Diseases, Iasi, Romania and ²University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Gr. T. Popa", Infectious Diseases, Iasi, Romania

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2022.2280

Introduction: Looking back into history, infectious diseases played an important role in human history being responsible, in terms of pathologies, for more deaths than any other disease.

Objectives: Considering that infectious diseases have a high rate of transmissibility, with an acute debut and sometimes with a fast evolution to exitus, the impact of the news on families of the departed patient diagnosed with an infectious disease can come as a shock. We conducted a literature review regarding the psychological symptoms, mourning and staging of processing a loss using the international database.

Methods: We conducted a literature review regarding the psychological symptoms, mourning and staging of processing a loss using the international database.

Results: Processing the unexpected death of a family member needs not only the implication of the physician but also the counseling of a specialized psychologist which can help the families through all stages of loss and grief.

Conclusions: For the family of deceased patients in hospitals, mourning and depression are a reality that the psychologist and the attending physician face every day. The team of psychologists and medical doctors are facing cases of severe shock and depression in parents, varying with the age of the child and of the young adult, in cases with an acute or severe disease leading to death.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

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The Puzzles Test and the Red Shapes Test as new diagnostic tools for neglect syndrome

V. Propustina¹, G. Stepanov¹, D. Yurina^{1*}, N. Varako^{1,2}, M. Kovyazina^{1,2}, S. Vasilyeva³ and V. Daminov³¹Lomonosov Moscow State University, Faculty Of Psychology, Moscow, Russian Federation; ²Research Center of Neurology, Department Of Neurorehabilitation And Physiotherapy, Moscow, Russian Federation and ³Pirogov National Medical and Surgical Center, Medical Rehabilitation Clinic, Moscow, Russian Federation

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2022.2281

Introduction: Neuropsychological methods for diagnosing neglect syndrome (NS) are focused on identifying the inability of patients to respond to stimuli localized in contralesional space. There are a large number of methods capable of diagnosing spatial neglect, but at the same time having various limitations and restrictions in their use.

Objectives: To devise and to test universal diagnostic techniques for visuospatial neglect detection.

Methods: 1) A.R. Luria test battery; Trail Making Test (Part A); the Bells Test; 2) Authors' methods: the Puzzles Test, the Red Shapes Test. A total of 47 patients after stroke with right hemisphere

damage participated in the study and were divided into a target (18 patients with NS) and a control (29 patients without NS) groups. The Puzzles Test consists of three tasks: turning over cards, completing a sentence using cards with letters, completing a picture. The Red Shapes Test consisted in the search for a variable number of geometric shapes. Objective indicators of the study: total task completion time, the number of left omissions.

Results: The sensitivity of the tests to NS was examined using the Mann-Whitney U-test. Differences in the number of omissions and task completion time between patients with and without spatial neglect were statistically significant regarding all tasks: turning over cards ($p=0.01$), completing a sentence ($p<0.001$), completing a picture ($p<0.001$), finding geometric shapes ($p<0.01$).

Conclusions: The Puzzles Test and Red Shapes Test along with the foreign tests (the Bells Test, Trail Making Test) are sufficiently effective methods for spatial neglect detection.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: neuropsychological assessment; spatial neglect; unilateral neglect; visuospatial search

EPV1719

Ludovico's Technique: The Literary Depiction of Aversion Therapy in 'A Clockwork Orange'

J. Wellington^{1*}, A. Wellington², M. Abbasy³, M. Bhagia⁴, D. Myles⁵ and V. Bhure⁶¹Cardiff University, School Of Medicine, Barry, United Kingdom;²Cardiff University, Department Of Biosciences, Barry, United Kingdom; ³Rush University Medical Centre, Medical Centre, Chicago, United States of America; ⁴Nanavati Max Superspeciality Hospital, Medicine, Mumbai, India; ⁵Medical University of the Americas, Psychiatry, Kentville, Canada and ⁶Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences, Institute Of Medical Sciences, Bhandara, India

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2022.2282

Introduction: Anthony Burgess' novel 'Clockwork Orange' identifies the topical debates surrounding the use of aversion therapy (or aversive conditioning) as an effective treatment for addictive behaviours. Widely popularised in literature as 'Ludovico's Technique', Burgess attempts to credit the misunderstanding and dramatization of its effects when the main protagonist is released from a prison sentence after undergoing this treatment.

Objectives: We aimed to highlight the depictions of aversion therapy in modern popular literature.

Methods: A narrative review of the current literature concerning aversion therapy and Anthony Burgess's novel 'A Clockwork Orange' was conducted. Emphasis on the misinterpretation of aversive therapies was noted.

Results: Since the introduction of pharmacological alternatives and additional forms of psychological therapies, there has been a decline in the use of aversion therapy in recent decades. However, it is still effective when conceding the conditioning process. Likewise, its predecessor 'visual imagery' is believed to be a more acceptable and effective form.

Conclusions: The depiction of aversion therapy in literature and media has played a role in shaping societal views on aversive conditioning techniques and the degree to which they are deemed acceptable forms of treatment. The "Ludovico Technique" featured in the novel 'A Clockwork Orange' and its film adaptation is arguably the most salient depiction of aversion therapy in popular culture.