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CASE REPORT OF AN ADOLESCENT PSYCHOTIC PATIENT

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Introduction: 5% of adults with schizophrenia report onset of psychosis before the age of 15. Despite the lack of precise incidence and prevalence rates from childhood or adolescent population-based studies, it is generally agreed that the prevalence of psychotic disorders increases markedly during adolescence.

The aim of this presentation is to demonstrate a case of an adolescent with psychosis and mild mental retardation.

Method/ material: The material used comes from the archives of the Child/Adolescent Clinic of the CMHC.

Discussion/ results: A 12-year-old boy was referred to the Child/Adolescent Clinic. He presented unwelcome repeated actions, (repeated opening/closing his books, allocating/reallocating things, sitting/re-sitting on the chair). He complained about auditory hallucinations (children talking/laughing 'in his head'). He also presented self-destructive behavior ('when I am angry I bang my head against the wall'). He was irritable, aggressive towards other children, with impulsive behavior. He had troubles understanding Greek language since he was from Russian origin.

From his history, both his father and grandfather were referred to suffer from mental disorder.

He was administered WISC and Rorschach tests. His intelligence quotient score was below 70 and the Rorschach test confirmed paranoid schizophrenic symptoms. Hospitalization was suggested but immediately rejected by his mother.

Risperidone was initiated (1mg/day-1,5mg/day). Soon, the symptoms began to be restricted. He began to be more concentrated, functional and sociable. 2 years after the initiation of risperidone, the patient's situation is stable (0,5 mg/day), appearing better mood.

Conclusion: Monotherapy with risperidone seems to provide significant levels of symptomatic improvement in young psychotic patients.