

Clinico-psychological and Psychopathological Aspects of Schizophrenia and Homicide

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Abstract:

Background: The problem of homicide in mental illness, and particularly in schizophrenia, is crucial for a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines.

Aims: To explore clinical and psychological and psychopathological characteristics of a group of schizophrenic patients, who committed homicide.

Method: Experimental group encompassed 47 patients with schizophrenia and homicide, first control group included 50 age and education matched controls with schizophrenia and a second control group without schizophrenia, but with homicide. All patients were assessed by PANSS, Rosenzweig frustration tolerance test, GAF and Buss-Durkee hostility questionnaire.

Results and Discussion: In general, patients with schizophrenia and homicide were more severely ill in comparison with the control group. The item “unusual thought content” correlated significantly with homicide in schizophrenia.

Conclusion: Most of the symptoms were more prominent in patients with schizophrenia and homicide. Some differences were found. Further studies are needed to explain pathophysiological and patho-plastic aspects.

Keywords

Schizophrenia, Homicide, Severity of Illness