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## THE 17<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE ROMANIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF PERSONALITY

### Personality Disorders - Between Determinism and Rehabilitation in the Roles of Life

Sovata, Romania

11-14 April 2019

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VOLUME OF ABSTRACTS

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## Personality Disorders - Between Determinism and Rehabilitation in the Roles of Life

Sovata, Romania, 1-14 April 2019

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## PERSONALITY DISORDERS AND DAILY LIFE

Mircea Lăzărescu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Timișoara County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic

Cleckley has pointed out that the psychopath can have the mask of a normal person, having respectable professions, and Tyrer, in the examination manual for PES, insisted that the behavior should be investigated in one's personal life, family life, with neighbors, in vacation etc. Beyond the clinical variants of the Personality Disorders for which are suggested labels borrowed from mental disorders (e.g. Schizoid PD, Paranoid PD, Obsessive-Compulsive PD), from a mental health perspective, of "characteropathies", it may be helpful to pay attention also to: lack of humor, incapacity to play, to have fun, to contemplate, the scrupulous requirement of accuracy, "normopathy", the manner in which a person keeps his promises, keeps secrets and so on. If the personality disorders problems entered in the medicine by way of clinical psychiatry, its nuancing shall be done of course by reminding the ancient attitude in regard to the character moral wisdom.

**Keywords:** psychopath, mental health perspective, character moral wisdom

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## CONSIDERATIONS ON THE PROJECT ICD-WHO-11 REVISION, VERSION 2018

Mircea Dehelean<sup>1</sup>, Liana Dehelean<sup>1</sup>, Pompilia Dehelean<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Timișoara County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic

In this communication the authors present their opinion regarding the content of the final version (2018) of the project ICD-11-WHO, which is still in testing stage and it will be declared official, if approved by the World Health Assembly, as the new work tool, being put into general use immediately, only after 1.01.2022. ICD-11-WHO will radically change the conceptualization of Personality Disorders (PD) as a mental disorder type (Tyrer, 2014. Krueger, 2016). The changes in defining and classifying PD are so radical that Davidson K. (2011) asked himself if they did not go a little too far. The project ICD-11-WHO rejects the previous categorical model (with eight distinct types of PD) and sets up a new model, totally original, of exclusive dimensional approach. The latter one demolishes the content of the old categorical types of PD in order to build a model, without precedent, focused on the "core" of the personality dysfunction, which allows the psychiatrist to classify, within a sole PD (no types) three grades of severity (mild, moderate and severe) and then to specify one or several "qualifiers" that predominate in the domain of the personality traits of a patient. If applicable, it is also specified a borderline pattern. The degree of severity of PD may be determined by processing the Personality Inventory for ICD-11 (PICD) developed by Othmanns and Widiger (2018). The qualifiers mentioned above are in number of five: Negative Affectivity, Detachment, Disinhibition, Dissociality and Anankastia. Bach and First (2018) record, according to descriptions, the diagnosis of some PD cases, for example: "Severe PD, with borderline pattern and prominent traits: Negative Affectivity, Dissociality and Disinhibition. After a critical analysis of all of the above, the authors will express their opinion regarding the ICD-11 - WHO project, final version 2018.

**Keywords:** personality disorders, ICD-11, revision

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## THE HUMAN BEING – BETWEEN CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY MYTHOLOGICAL VALUES

Aurel Nireștean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureș

Personal life means a string of subjective events and experiences that may be the fruit of destiny or chance. Narrated and introjected in the collective mentality they become part of the legends and myths that dominate culture and the spiritual life. The values promoted by the traditional mythology substantiate the individual and collective adaptive capacities and delimit the main motivations of self-determination of the human being. The contemporary myths develop another category of values - efferences of postmodern society particularities - that cultivate egocentrism and relativism in interpersonal roles and relationships. They may also have other meanings under the conditions of a desired and required openness towards the spiritual universe.

**Keywords:** human being, mythology, spiritual universe

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## CLUSTER OF PSYCHOTIC SYMPTOMS IN A CURRENT CLINICAL APPROACH IN BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER

Carol Friedmann<sup>1</sup>, Alin Badic<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Constanța County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic

This study attempts to review the latest data from the specialized literature on the occurrence and evolution of psychotic manifestations in patients diagnosed with borderline personality disorder. The frequency of psychotic symptoms associated to borderline disorder is between 13-60%, and they may be considered as stand-alone syndromological entities or exacerbations of the dimensional structural dominants of

borderline personality disorder. The most commonly encountered productive phenomena are psycho-sensory hallucinations, paranoid episodes and dissociative episodes. The stress conditions or unapparent factors may trigger the psychotic manifestations that always present a challenge for the therapeutic intervention. They also require a differential diagnostic approach in relation to the periodic affective psychoses and the schizophrenic ones.

**Keywords:** borderline personality, psychotic symptoms, differential diagnosis

## **BODY DYSMORPHIC DISORDER IN A PATIENT WITH BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER: PERSONALITY IMPRESSIONS AND CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS. CASE REPORT**

Andreea Mănescu<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>, Aurora Manolachi<sup>1</sup>, Ioana Morariu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

We aimed to underline the implications of dysmorphophobia in a patient with severe borderline traits. We took into consideration clinical aspects as risk management, therapeutic interventions or impact on prognostic. We also put under the light the inner world of the patient, the pervasive patterns of behaviour and to what extent, taken together, contribute to an integrative psychopathological frame.

Her inner world is built on primal representations and disturbed forms of object relations, the patient having a profoundly undeveloped affect. Adding a quasi-psychotic self in a sense of latent persistent depersonalization and derealization, extremely fragile and immature, the patient sees the outside world in grey shades most of the time. A look at the case through the personality point of view, offers a possible explanation of the psychopathological mechanism that underlines the development of further mental illness. It also integrates a distinct and complex syndrome such as dysmorphophobia on the foundation of personality. On the same perspective, the relationships between self-image, insight and affect can add more details to the clinical sketch.

**Keywords:** borderline personality disorder, dysmorphophobia, case report

## **SUBVARIANTS OF THE OBSESSIVE PERSONALITY FROM DSM-5 PERSPECTIVE**

Emese Lukacs<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

<sup>2</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

The contemporary world favors, maintains, capitalizes, and sanctions simultaneously the obsessive type personality traits. In this context, identifying an obsessive-type substantive vulnerability often becomes a challenge.

We describe comparatively the two subvariants of the obsessive personality - typically obsessive, respectively the psychasthenic type - corresponding to the alternative model of DSM-5 which coalesces the categorical perspective and the dimensional one in the diagnosis of personality disorders.

This approach allows to highlight and understand the structural differences - from the perspective of self-esteem and Super-Ego, of the capacity of self-directedness, the manner of carrying out the activity and of efficiency, as well as in terms of the quality of relational skills - which condition the adaptive capacities and vulnerability for the Axis I diseases

By exemplifying some clinical cases, we support the comparative description of the structural variants of the obsessive personality that - between strictness and ambiguity - always relates itself anxiously to the roles and challenges of life.

**Keywords:** obsessive personality, strictness, ambiguity

## **SHAKESPEARE ON FREUD'S COUCH**

Doina Cozman<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Cluj-Napoca County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic

<sup>2</sup>Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy

Freud's interest in literature has dominated his entire career. In his writings, he has often made reference to Shakespeare's plays, focusing especially on four of the masterpieces of the great bard: Hamlet, Macbeth, Richard III, King Lear. Freud has enriched the understanding of Shakespearean dramas through his psychoanalytic vision of the characters' personality. He associated Hamlet's behavior with Oedipus complex, the pathology of success with the criminal couple Macbeth-Lady Macbeth, the power complex with Richard III, and also the instinct



of death with the decisions of King Lear. We cannot, however, ignore the fact that Freud omitted many elements that did not match his psychoanalytic model, strictly based on the force of the libido to aggregate the components of personality (Id-Ego-Super-Ego) into a dramatic structure generating psychopathology.

**Keywords:** Shakespearean dramas, Freud's couch, psychopathology

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## ACCEPTANCE AND COMMITMENT THERAPY FOR COMORBIDITIES FROM PERSONALITY SPHERE

Cosmin Popa<sup>1</sup>, Mariana Dragomir<sup>2</sup>, Delia Flutur<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

<sup>2</sup> Private Health Network – „Regina Maria” of Târgu-Mureş

<sup>3</sup> Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

Especially in the last decade, the therapeutic orientations of the „third wave” of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapies (CBT) have had proven their effectiveness in the psychopathological field. Thus, in the last years in mostly of the disorders from DSM-5 spectrum, ACT has had a good therapeutic results. On the other hand, in this context the Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) has increased efficiency of CBT in addressing disorders treated both in psychiatry and other medical conditions. Also, the Relational Framework Theory (RTF) it's an integral part of ACT, being one of the most important theories underlying conceptualization and understanding of how maladaptive behaviors it manifests themselves in personality disorders.

In fact, the transdiagnostic model of ACT is also useful and effective for treating patients with personality disorders that also have comorbidities with other disorders of the DSM-5 spectrum. For these patients as a result of increasing the level of acceptance and psychological flexibility and at the same time decreasing the cognitive fusion, ACT approaches contributing to obtain the well-being state.

**Keywords:** ACT, CBT, anxiety, depression, personality disorder

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## DEVELOPING ABILITIES OF INDIVIDUAL AUTONOMY IN DEPENDENT PERSONALITY DISORDER

Mariana Dragomir<sup>1</sup>, Cosmin Popa<sup>2</sup>, Delia Flutur<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Private Health Network - „Regina Maria” of Târgu-Mureş

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

<sup>3</sup>Mures County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

The dependent personality disorder is represented in particular by difficulty making decisions, ambivalence, fear of rejection, and the patient's difficulties in expressing their refusal, all of which affect their autonomy and individual mobility. In order to modify these maladaptive behaviors, it is first necessary for the patient with a dependent P.D. to become aware of these behaviors in a life context, and then, with the therapist, to modify those thoughts / beliefs generate emotions and dysfunctional behaviors. These techniques of cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy (CBT) are confirmed by new research in the field, indicating that in order to change a behavior, the patient must first develop certain skills, and then use them in the process of change. Therefore, CBT intervention in the P.D. depends on two important components, on the one hand, the modification of thoughts / beliefs, but most importantly the development of abilities and functional behavioral changes.

**Keywords:** dependent personality disorder, cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy

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## CONTEMPORARY VARIANTS OF PSYCHEDELIC SUBSTANCES

Flaviu Bologh<sup>1</sup>, Ancuța Duca<sup>1</sup>, Lorena Mihaela Muntean<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

The phenomenon of microdosing, the regular ingestion of small amounts of psychedelic substances, has seen a rapid explosion in popularity in recent years in some circles. Individuals with microdoses report acute effects, but state a range of general long-term health and well-being benefits, including changes in the personality traits spectrum.

Shortly after the discovery of LSD, it was used in psychiatry and psychoanalysis. For 15 years it has been used for scientific studies and psychiatry. The prohibition of psychedelics coincided with the use of abusive and recreational purposes.

Current studies indicate use in the medical field and the restructuring of personality traits.

**Keywords:** psychedelic, LSD, personality, changes, illegal, medicine, psychiatry

## ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN CLINICAL AND EVOLUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BREAST CANCER AND PERSONALITY TRAITS

Andra Oltean<sup>1</sup>, Emese Lukacs<sup>2</sup>, Monica Bilca<sup>1,2</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

Psychiatric pathology is a particular diversity also due to somatic comorbid conditions that are often associated. Like any other disabling disease, breast cancer can affect the person's mental condition but also the personality, with its features and dimensions.

They interfere with the dynamics of psychic episodes and mental illness, and also with the personality traits and dimensions. Therefore, the onset, the evolution, the prognosis and the therapeutic responsiveness of psychopathological diversity can also trigger somatic disorder.

Starting from the idea that the features and the dimensions of personality are the main factor of the field on which any ailing process takes place, it is also necessary to evaluate them to other types of pathologies, like breast cancer, whose clinical and evolutionary particularities always have a major impact on the person.

The aim of this paper is to confirm or refute the direct relationship between the clinical - progressive particularities of breast cancer and the personality traits.

**Keywords:** personality, personality dimension, mental illness, cancer

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## THE OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE PERSONALITY DISORDER AND CREATIVITY

Simina Constantin<sup>1</sup>, Mihaela Gavriş<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>, Tudor Nireştean<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

The obsessive-compulsive personality disorder described for the first time in the 19th century is characterized by the presence of obsessions and compulsions, being dominated by an exaggerated self-control over their own actions and interpersonal relationships on the background of cognitive strategies based on extreme rigor, meticulousness and perfectionism.

Creativity is defined as a complex feature of personality, the component of its spiritual dimension. It means the ability to realize something new, original, through psychic processes and skills. The basic condition that helps to her apparition is spontaneity.

The obsessive-compulsive personality disorder and creativity can interfere in the way in which obsessive patients can offset the anxiogenic content of psychism through creativity. On the other side, to a large extent, creativity can be stimulated and efficientized by the dominance structural of obsessive compulsive personality.

**Keywords:** personality, obsessive-compulsive, creativity, perfectionism

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## WHEN THE CANVAS BECOMES THE MIRROR: THE THERAPEUTIC LIMITS OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Orsolya Benedek<sup>1</sup>, Horia Marchean<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

One cannot ignore the fact that people drawn to artistic manifestation, spirituality or, largely speaking, the ones with open to introspection and matters of the mind and soul are frequently also faced with a vulnerability towards suffering of the mind.

We fear we face an impossible question: Does genius precede madness, or the other way around? If form truly precedes function, which, then, is the function, and which is the form?

Our presentation, we hope, will offer you a glance into the worlds inhabited by a few deeply disturbed, but absolutely brilliant minds, which were also – dare we suggest – incredible therapists. Not only have these people made the world a better place by giving us works of undoubted value, but, we think, they have succeeded in a veritable self-treatment through the expression of multitudinous mental ails, expression without which they would have been brought low.

So, in the following presentation, we would ask: in what proportion is creativity influenced by psychiatric disorders, and how well can it manage said disorders?

**Keywords:** creativity, borderline personality, art, therapy, painting

## PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITIES IN EMOTIONALLY UNSTABLE PERSONALITY DISORDER BORDERLINE TYPE

Cătălina Crișan<sup>1,2</sup>, Ramona Vornica<sup>1</sup>, Diana Mera<sup>1</sup>, Corina Deac<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Cluj-Napoca Emergency County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic

<sup>2</sup>Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy

The emotionally unstable personality disorder borderline type is a condition that is often associated with multiple psychiatric comorbidities (affective disorders, suicide, impulse control disorder, substance abuse).

The case presented is the one of a 22-year-old university student from the urban environment with a history of sexual abuse in adolescence and who comes from a disorganized family. She was admitted under emergency and hospitalized at the Psychiatric Clinic I within SCJU Cluj-Napoca for negative hyperthymia, free floating anxiety, anhedonia, micromanic ideas of guilt, blame, suicidal ideation with plan, low daily performance, concentration hypoprosexia, lack of appetite, mixed insomnia and an increased use of toxic substances (to improve the mood and quality of sleep). The psychiatric examination revealed a marked impulsivity, feeling of inner void, fear of abandonment, alternation between extremes of idealization and devaluation in interpersonal relationships, irritability, irascibility, low tolerance to minimal frustrations, physical and verbal hetero-aggressiveness, risk behavior (alcohol consumption; consumption of psychoactive substances - cannabis, amphetamines, but the codeine and tramadol opioids are preferred, dangerous sexual relationships with unknown partners, gambling) and history of self-harm (multiple suicide attempts - venesection, multiple drug intake, hanging) the last one appeared basically at the end of a relationship.

The psychological evaluation revealed an IQ = 104 (Raven test) and personality structured on the borderline model (SCID II).

It has been established the diagnosis of severe depressive episode without psychotic symptoms. Emotionally unstable personality disorder borderline type. Harmful use of alcohol and psychoactive substances. Pathological gambling. Antidepressant treatment with SSRI (Sertraline titration up to 100 mg/day), atypical antipsychotic (Quetiapine XR 400 mg), mood stabilizer (Valproic Acid 2 mg/day) with favorable evolution, but requiring further positive psychotherapy.

**Keywords:** borderline personality, suicide, substance abuse, impulse disorder

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## NEUROTICISM – A RESSOURCE INSSUFFICIENTLY CAPITALIZED

Dan Prelipceanu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> „Alexandru Obregia” Psychiatric Hospital București

Neuroticism (N) is a dispositional trait that predisposes to emotions and negative affects (anxiety, depression, emotional instability, irritability, hyperconsciousness). It is unanimously renowned as a constitutional factor of vulnerability for neurotic and depressive destabilization under stress / even in normal life situations. As a result, it is probably inventoried in all the lists and conceptual formulations of the personality traits combinations, including of course the 5 factor personality model (*Big Five*). DSM-5, the draft ICD 11 are no exception, or other ongoing taxonomic works that operate with transdiagnostic concepts undergoing theoretical and operational refinement and which refer directly or indirectly to neuroticism (RDoC). Widiger (2009, 2017), Tackett, Lahey (2018) believe that N is one of the most empirically validated personality traits and that its heritability, lifelong stability, and even its „universal presence” are proven. A precursor genetic factor of psychopathology, but also of somatic pathology (psychosomatic, immune depression, cardiac pathology), N becomes a general pathological vulnerability that influences even the mortality indices (Tackett, Lahey, 2018). The article reviews some of the data that shape a new approach in the near future, probably even of practical nature, of this ubiquitous pathological factor, including from the public health perspective, which could treat it as a primary and secondary prevention target, of positive influence on the social burden of certain mental/somatic disorders.

**Keywords:** neuroticism, vulnerability, prevention

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## TRAUMA EXPOSURE – OBSTACLE AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

Dana – Cristina Herța<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Cluj-Napoca County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic

Trauma exposure involves a combination of biological factors (genetic, epigenetic, individual resources and vulnerabilities), psychological (type and representation of the event, predictability, control perceived over the occurrence and development of the event, defense and coping mechanisms) and social (social support, representation of the event at the social group level). Along the person's evolutionary path, after the exposure to trauma, post-traumatic stress-related symptoms of variable intensity and duration are combined with post-traumatic recovery and development elements.

The traumatic event divides the person's path in two stages - before and after trauma. The post-traumatic development leads the person to a superior level of personality development and interpersonal functioning, as to the period prior to the event. There have been identified post-traumatic development elements and factors favoring it in various categories of population (civilians, military personnel, emergency response personnel, patients with disabilities, life threatening or mental disorders) exposed to various categories of trauma.

The main factors favoring post-traumatic development, irrespective of the population category and the type of trauma, are the person's willingness to seek help and to accept the help offered, adherence to spiritual values, community support and community cohesion, the female gender. In the psychiatric practice, encouraging post-traumatic development should be avoided if there is a lack of community cohesion and active support of the society towards the psychiatric patient.

**Keywords:** trauma exposure, personality development, interpersonal functioning

## DEREALIZATION AND DEPERSONALIZATION INDUCED BY CANNABIS

Ancuța Duca<sup>1</sup>, Andreea Comanicu<sup>1</sup>, Flaviu Bologh<sup>1</sup>, Lorena Munteanu<sup>1</sup>, Daniela Haiura<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nirestean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureș

The link between the cannabis use and the onset of the psychiatric disorders in people with a particular vulnerability is a subject of great importance in the medical literature. There are some gaps regarding risk factors of the phenomenon of derealization and depersonalization in patients with cannabis use. This phenomenon may be due to the presence of a genetic vulnerability of cannabinoid receptors.

From a pharmacological point of view, use of cannabis does not directly produce such strong psychoactive effects to induce a dissociative state, but a high percentage of people experienced derealization or depersonalization during the first contact with this drug. Adolescence is the most affected age category.

In literature, this connection between cannabis use, adolescence, and the development of depersonalization is vaguely described, but there is a link with the process of developing individual personality.

Awareness of the potential effects of cannabis use is and will remain a big issue among adolescents.

**Keywords:** derealization, depersonalization, cannabis

## PSYCHOPATHY AS A PREDICTOR OF THE SATANIC SYNDROME. RITUALS AND SPIRITUAL PSYCHOTHERAPIES

Diana Mihaela Vlad<sup>1</sup>, Andreea Mănescu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

Lately, several efficient spiritual psychotherapies have been developed. These spiritual psychotherapies represent a bridge between religion, science and philosophy and create a favourable ground for the conventional therapies.

This paper aims to outline the notion of spirituality born from the desire of explaining the supernatural but it also aims to capture the main elements of the Satanic syndrome and its interferences with psychopathy.

Another concept that is outlined in this paper is schadenfreude-experiencing great satisfaction at the misfortune of others because recent studies have found a strong correlation between psychopathy and this phenomenon.

**Keywords:** psychopathy, satanic syndrome, spirituality, schadenfreude

## STEVE JOBS AND APPLE COMPANY'S NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY DISORDER

Teodor Grigoraș<sup>1</sup>, David Mureșan<sup>1</sup>, Ovidiu Tatu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

"The only way you can come up with something new, something that can change the world, is to think in different terms as the people around you." - Steve Wozniak

This paper's objective is the study of the speeches and ideas behind Apple company, founded by Steve Jobs together with his partner and friend Steve Wozniak on 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1976.

It is considered that Steve Jobs was one of the best story-tellers the world has ever known. He managed to sell dreams, not products, always talking with an exaggerated enthusiasm about his company's products. He brought it to life, gave it personality, and was the image and voice of Apple.

Exploiting innovations and others' ideas, using them in his own advantages, his marketing policy and the way he presented the products, but also his superior attitude towards competitors, all together led the company on the peak of success.

From the analysis of historical speeches of its founders and the company's ascent towards the peaks of success, where it shines even to-

day, the personality given to Apple's company follows a pattern that meets 7 out of 9 diagnostic criteria for narcissistic personality disorder according to DSM 5.

**Keywords:** success, Apple, narcissistic personality disorder

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## CONFESSION AND PRAYER - A SPIRITUAL AND THERAPEUTICAL APPROACH

Laura Iacob<sup>1</sup>, Bianca Stoica<sup>1</sup>, Andreea Useri<sup>1</sup>, Orsolya Vetesi<sup>1</sup>, Ioana Morariu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

Religion plays an important role in the lives of people around the world; the sufferer seeks healing not only from physical or emotional suffering, but also in the sense of belonging and integrity. This was neglected by psychiatrists and psychologists in the past. Nowadays a more careful approach of the relationship between religion and health in general, particularly mental health generated numerous debates.

The occurrence of mental disorders in religious people often involves seeking support and help through prayer and confession. Besides the supportive role, these 2 religious practices gain a larger meaning through the possibility of introspection and the search for answers that could lead to healing. Emotional resources, hope and the possibility of finding a sense in suffering can help the patient develop effective coping mechanisms.

**Keywords:** prayer, confession, therapy

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## HUMAN PERSONALITY ACROSS TIME. HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS.

Andreea Mănescu<sup>1</sup>, Alexandra Haj-Osman<sup>1</sup>, Diana Vlad<sup>1</sup>, Alexandra Popa<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireștean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureș

To follow the thread of history down to the path of personality concepts it is indeed a great challenge and honour. Beginning with ancient Greeks like Hippocrates, we tried to make a brief review of major contributions to the study of human personality. As we move towards modern era, personality becomes a topic of interest, being approached from many points of view. In present day, we see personality as central to the human psyche, suggesting its major contribution in understanding every mental function, both physiological and pathological ones. Moreover, we depict cultural influences on the bigger but yet subjective picture of personality. Human personality remains an everlasting flame whose ashes attracted all kinds of intellect, from ancient times until today.

**Keywords:** personality, historical highlights, cultural influences

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## EXPERIENTIAL TECHNIQUES USED IN CBT FOR TREATING PATIENTS WITH PERSONALITY DISORDERS

Delia Flutur<sup>1</sup>, Cosmin Popa<sup>2</sup>, Mariana Dragomir<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureș

<sup>3</sup> Private Health Network – „Regina Maria” of Târgu-Mureș

The nosological and clinical complexity of personality disorders can raise diagnostic problems, as well as difficulties regarding the treatment. The dysfunctional behavioral patterns, the disruptive expression of emotions, impulsiveness, the ambivalence and manipulative strategies represent maladaptive coping mechanisms. These are frequently used by patients with Personality Disorders. These patterns appeared and developed due to negative interactions with representative individuals from the patients' childhood – parents, tutors- Therefore, to efficiently treat personality disorders, there is an absolute need to modify these behaviors' and thinking modes- which in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy are called Schemes or Modes. The therapeutic approach of the Schema Therapy is efficient in these cases, firstly because of its eclectic therapeutic character – because it uses cognitive, psychodynamic, gestalt, experiential approach- and secondly because it can solve the intrapsychic conflicts that emerge in patients with Personality Disorders. In this paper, we will describe the Schema Therapy concept and we will give an exemplification of a therapeutic process which includes Schema Therapy, on a patient with narcissistic personality disorder.

**Keywords:** cognitive behavioral therapy, schema therapy, narcissistic personality disorder

## PERSONALITY DISORDERS AND PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Alexandra-Elena Popa<sup>1</sup>, Andreea Manescu<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

Personality disorders are often perceived as pervasive, inflexible, persistent patterns of experiences and behaviors that may contribute to underperformance in different fields such as social, occupational, and work-related. The “successful psychopath” it’s a topic that gained attention recently, for this reason I looked for studies to verify whether it’s a reality or just a theory.

Among the personality disorders, antisocial, paranoid and obsessive-compulsive personality disorder showed the highest rate of negative results in the professional field. Among these individuals there was also a higher rate of axis I pathology.

Regarding psychopathy’s different layouts , the manipulative and deceitful style of the narcissist tends to be useful , narcissists showing the highest marked indicators of successful careers, often with satisfying incomes , socio-economic positions, leading jobs and better than average life conditions.

The contemporary psychopath can be easily found having a white-collar job, his immoral behavior being hidden out of the sight of his co-workers, or simply ignored by them due to their lack of knowledge.

**Keywords:** personality disorder, success, professional achievement

## PERSONOLOGICAL DESTINIES MASKED BY SOCIAL HIERARCHIES

Lorena Mihaela Muntean<sup>1</sup>, Ancuţa Duca<sup>1</sup>, Flaviu Bologh<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

Through this paper I want to develop the relationships between a psychopathological destiny marked by the deviant personality structure and a biography overwhelmed by social hierarchies.

Princess Diana is one of the most iconic figures of the modern British monarchy. The intrigue that revolves around the princess comes from the following two questions: „What she allowed the world to see?” VS „Who she is in the reality?”. Throughout her life, Diana portrayed two versions, two totally different personalities, thing that she perpetuated around her family and friends.

Through her intelligence the princess managed to hide personal problems by keeping her attire to which she binds her social rank.

The written and rewritten history demonstrates a variant of dignity that could have another destiny with a less tragic outcome.

**Keywords:** biography, borderline personality disorder, bulimia, social hierarchies.

## THE DYNAMICS OF THE PERSONALITY STRUCTURE IN THE EVOLUTION OF SCHIZOPHRENIC PSYCHOSIS

Beáta Bucur<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>, Orsolya Benedek<sup>1</sup>, Zsolt Jakab<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

Paranoid schizophrenia is the most typical and most common clinical form that begins after personogenesis ends at the end of the second or third decade of life. Although it is sometimes dominated by tensions, suspiciousness, refolding and hostility, the preserving intellectual capabilities and partly of relational ones gives this clinical form the most favorable prognosis

The features of the premorbid personality can favor the installation of the psychotic picture, and later accompany the chronological evolutions in various variants. I present the case of a 32-year-old patient diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia in 2015 and who is currently undergoing antipsychotic treatment due to low compliance. The disease began insidious about four years ago, with affective distancing, a tendency to isolation, a decreasing school performance. On a personality structure dominated by increased openness, reduced consciousness and hyper-sensitivity. Subsequently, disregarding treatment with Quetiapine and Depakine leads to multiple relapses, and the symptom accentuation is accompanied by changes in the personality dimensions. The particularity of the case is represented by the patient’s complex motivated compliance with the treatment and dulling behavior.

**Keywords:** paranoid schizophrenia, verbal and physical heterogression, suspicion

## PSYCHOTIC DECOMPENSATION IN A PATIENT WITH MIXED PERSONALITY DISORDER (DEPENDENT AND SCHIZOTYPAL). CASE STUDY

Timofei Muntean<sup>1</sup>, Raluca Cozma<sup>1</sup>, Corina Deac<sup>1</sup>, Cătălina Crișan<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Cluj-Napoca Emergency County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic

<sup>2</sup>Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy

Although schizotypal and dependent personality disorder have a higher prevalence among the general population (0.6-4.6% respectively 0.4-1.8%), their association is less common, as there isn't an interdependence relationship among the two nosological entities, or an evolutionary one.

This study presents the case of a 31-year-old patient from the urban environment, without a psychiatric history, brought in to our service at the request of a friend for a positive florid symptomatology (pathological visual illusions and bizarre behavior, paranoid delusional ideas of chase, persecution and prejudice for a four day period), symptomatology that occurred shortly after the temporary separation from his wife (diagnosed in turn, with schizophrenia).

On a more thorough analysis of the psychopathological picture in evolution, and of their interpersonal, cognitive and attachment styles, it has been noticed the dependence trait in relation to his wife, friend and the financially dependent on his mother. The dependence relationships fluctuated throughout the patient's life between mother, friend, wife and cult, which constituted the common point of the dependent and schizotypal personality trait.

During the admission, a mother-patient alliance was strengthened, with an affective inversion in relation to his wife and friend, hostility towards the medical staff, a defiant behavior. In association, we noticed a pattern of escaping into mysticism and magic, delegating responsibilities and obedience to the monastic community.

The PANSS score revealed the predominance of symptomatology (PANSS P= 19 points, PANSS N= 29 points, PANSS G= 48 points). The psychological evaluation revealed at SCID II - dependent and schizotypal personality disorder and at Raven test IQ = 94.

The particularity of this case is the relatively early onset of florid symptomatology and the presence of qualitative perception disorders that have proven to be actual disorders adopted by the patient at the moment of his transition from one dependence relationship to another. The critical moment of losing a relationship in a patient with dependent personality disorder may both precipitate a psychotic decompensation originating from the pre-existing schizotypal personality disorder, and lead to the adoption of supersimulating attitudes, a combination of elements that require a closer focus on the causality and psychodynamics of the patient.

**Keywords:** schizotypal personality, dependent personality, psychotic decompensation

## PERSEVERANCE AND TALENT IN SHAPING THE PERSONALITY OF TRANSEXUALS AND INTERSEXUALS, IN LITERATURE, FILM AND MEDIA

Mihai Ardelean<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Târgu Mureș Mental Health Centre

From the famous work of Simone de Beauvoir „Le Deuxième sexe” (The Second Sex) in 1949, to the making official the „third sex” in Germany, have passed seven decades. As of 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019, the word „divers” can be entered into the field for gender on a German birth certificate. Austria and the Netherlands will also soon recognize the „third gender”, the word replacing any reference to sex, in a current language, so called politically correct. In order to avoid any discrimination, there are encountered expressions related to gender identity, such as the „fourth gender” or another numeral associated with gender or sex, perceived as a growing wide spectrum between feminine and masculine. To further dilute the fact of belonging to a particular gender or sex, those concerned are looking to fall under a „neutral gender.” Sometimes, unsuccessfully, as it happened to a person born without external genitalia, to whom the Court of Cassation in France has recently rejected the request to be legally declared of „neutral sex”.

Biological, social and cultural determinations in the assertion of a transgenic and intergenic identity, have become a first-rate emotional topic, in the media, film and literature.

The topic of the third sex, if in addition is accompanied by exoticism, is not only attractive to the press, but also represents a plea for multiple sexual normality within a cultural diversity. For example, the *hijra* population in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, fulfills a protective role on behalf of the gods, a role inspired by Indian mythology.

The Golden Globe nominated film „Girl” won several awards at Cannes in 2018, Caméra d'Or and Queer Palm, for the highly credible depiction of the physical and moral suffering inspired by the life of a professional dancer, from Belgium, Nora Monsecour .

The struggle to assert the transgenic identity of the world's first man, who has undergone a sex change surgical intervention, has suggested the writer David Ebershoff the subject of his novel „Danish”, on which is based a biographical film „The Danish Girl”, presented in 2015 at the Venice Film Festival and rewarded with Golden Globes and the Oscar.

«The „cursed” place. The village where live over 20 intersexuals» is the title of an article that aims to impress by the unusual novelty of the agglomeration in one village from Turkey, of several intersexuals with genetic anomalies, as a result of marriages between relatives. Although they are related and they have hermaphroditism characteristics since birth, they are stigmatized and surrounded by the prejudiced fellow villagers.

In the contemporary world occurs a significant change in mentalities and attitudes in relation to the human sexuality, with the persistent participation of the media. A desideratum, such as „no individual should be discriminated against because of their sexual identity,” is publicized, especially when it is said by German Minister of Justice Katarina Barley, who showed regret that the civil status modernization with regard to the „third sex” have not occurred earlier. In changing mentalities, the particular inclination – similar to a vocation – of the media for the truth requires that „*audi alteram partem*.” Thus, in an editorial of the American psychiatrist Keith Ablow, published by Fox News, a recently enacted law in California, is considered by him „profoundly damaging” because students in public schools, depending on the sex chosen, are allowed to use the restrooms and the locker room, as they see fit. Furthermore, in an exclusive interview for the LifeSiteNews site, the same psychiatrist disagrees on the inappropriateness of questions asked to children „if their sex must remain unchanged”, as well as on hormonal and surgical interventions made to human beings to whom „we cannot identify precisely the boundary between firm belief and deceptive opinions.”

**Keywords:** contemporary world, human sexuality, media

## JIM JONES: IN THE MIDDLE OF PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL FATE AND SPIRITUAL CALL

Alexandra Haj Osman<sup>1</sup>, Andreea Mănescu<sup>1</sup>, Ovidiu Tatu<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireştean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

<sup>2</sup>University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Târgu Mureş

We look at the life of a well-known spiritual leader and mass killer from a clinical and psycho-social standpoint. We outline a psychopathological profile based on biographic data and we try to offer explanations of a profoundly inexplicable event – the mass suicide/killings that took place 40 years ago in Jonestown.

This case arises not only psychological but also ethical questions. Could the event be the culmination of a malignant narcissistic personality or the climax in which they self-sacrifice in the name of a spiritual faith or a reincarnated god in the person of a charismatic leader. Could such events be prevented in the future?

We will make brief comments in an attempt to delimit a predisposed psychopathological profile for mass manipulation. The dynamic of the relationship between the manipulator and the one being manipulated gives us a new integrative perspective, representing, in fact, two faces of the same coin.

**Keywords:** malignant narcissistic personality, spiritual faith, manipulation

## FAMILY – RELIGION – PSYCHOSIS – CASE PRESENTATION

Andreea Useri<sup>1</sup>, Bianca Stoica<sup>1</sup>, Laura Iacob<sup>1</sup>, Orsolya Vetesi<sup>1</sup>, Ioana Morariu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic No2

In many cases of psychotic disorder, faith and family represent a welcome support and help in obtaining clinical improvement. At extremes, the lack of family support and the use of religion as a refuge could become restrictions that are converging to develop forms of psychotic disorders.

The authors aim to bring to discussion the case of a 31 years old female patient admitted to Psychiatric Clinic 2 this year which presented all the psychopathological features of a psychotic disorder. As special mentions, she is not married, living with her mother and brothers and the entire family is of neoprotestant religion.

**Keywords:** psychosis, family, religion

## AGGRESSION AND SEXUALITY, FROM PSYCHOANALYTIC CONCEPTUALIZATION TO BIOLOGICAL CORRELATIONS OF GENDER ROLES

Lavinia Duica<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>„Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu

<sup>2</sup>”Dr. Gheorghe Preda” Psychiatric Hospital in Sibiu

In his early psychoanalytic theory of personality, the theory of impulses, Freud postulated the existence of two impulses: the instinct of life (Eros) or sexual care refers to survival, pleasure, reproduction, and the instinct of death (Thanatos) from which aggression originates.



Kernberg, a prominent psychoanalyst considered that one of the important characteristics of a harmonious personality is proper management of aggressive and sexual impulses, including the ability sublimation of aggressive impulses in assertiveness, resistance to attack without excessive reactions.

One of the cerebral formations involved in both aggression and sexuality is amygdala. At this level, negative emotions (fear, aggression), emotional memory, and gender responses are born. If gender stereotypes are concerned, neurobiological data show that female sex records a faster retention of memories with an emotional connotation, and that there is more sexual intercourse to visual stimuli and a greater motivation to seek out these stimuli, in the conditions of a larger size of the tonsil.

Aggressiveness and sexuality have some common points in ontogeny (biological and psychosocial), and therefore sometimes bad associations occurs.

**Keywords:** theory of impulses, aggression, sexuality

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## COGNITIVE-BEHAVIORAL THERAPY IN PERSONALITY DISORDERS

Claudia Elena Anghel<sup>1</sup>, Ciprian Băcilă<sup>1</sup>, Diana Monica Vulea<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>"Dr. Gheorghe Preda" Psychiatric Hospital in Sibiu

Personality disorders are a sustainable pattern of behaviors and experiences, with implications in cognition and emotion, resulting in impairment of interpersonal functioning and deviations from socio-cultural norms within the group to which the individual belongs.

The prevalence of these personality disorders varies between 5-15% among the adult population.

The therapeutic indications in personality disorders are both psychotherapy and pharmacotherapy. It has been demonstrated that optimal therapeutic outcomes have been achieved by the therapeutic approach and conceptualizing personality disorders from the perspective of cognitive behavioral therapy.

Cognitive-behavioral therapy has the role of changing dysfunctional behaviors in functional ones. This is accomplished by the (specific and integrative) psychological intervention on dysfunctional cognitive complex.

The specific intervention of cognitive-behavioral therapy can be achieved through the following steps: clinical psychological evaluation, cognitive conceptualization of the case, the intervention itself and the building of a therapeutic relationship based on empathy.

The aim of this paperwork is to highlight the way in which cognitive restructuring can be done according to the particularities of personality disorders

Empirical evidence shows the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioral therapy following the psycho-educational model.

**Keywords:** personality disorders, cognitive-behavioral therapy, psycho-educational model

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## NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY DISORDER - THEORETICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND THERAPEUTIC PERSPECTIVES

Diana Monica Vulea<sup>1</sup>, Ciprian Băcilă<sup>1</sup>, Claudia Elena Anghel<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>"Dr. Gheorghe Preda" Psychiatric Hospital in Sibiu

Personality disorders are defined as the modification in behavioural patterns and inner feeling that are characterized by persistence over time, pervasivity and inflexibility, significant deviation from the standards of the society in which the individual is integrated. Due to the early onset, during adolescence or early adulthood, this pathology evolves to affect the social, personal and professional functioning.

Narcissistic personality disorder is objected by grandiosity, a sense of entitlement, egocentrism, need for excessive admiration, lack of empathy, unlimited fantasies of success, unreasonable expectations from people around. It's prevalence in the general population is between 0,6-6,2% and among psychiatric patients between 2,3-35,7% according to DSM-5. Although DSM-5 describes a single clinical picture for this personality disorder, the latest scientific research highlights several subtypes of narcissistic personality disorder: manifest, hidden and malignant.

In the case of personality disorders, the therapeutic approach and the case conceptualization can be done from a psychodynamic, biosocial, cognitive-behavioral, interpersonal and integrative perspective, accompanied by the psychotherapeutic interventions associated with these approaches.

The aim of this paperwork is to highlight the characteristics of this personality disorder, the conceptualization of the case and the therapeutic perspectives.

The premise of an effective therapeutic intervention is the restructuring of socio-family functionality, due to the optimal management of the case.

**Keywords:** narcissistic personality, behavioural patterns, therapeutic intervention



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