

Clinical Image

Nihilistic Delusion in Context of Schizophrenia

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Submitted: 04 May 2015

Accepted: 26 June 2015

Published: 29 June 2015

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Keywords:

Nihilistic delusion; Cotard's syndrome; Schizophrenia

A middle age, single man with diagnosis of Chronic Schizophrenia resistance to treatment more than 15 years ago was admitted in psychiatry unit. He was hopeless, poor hygiene social withdrawn, low socioeconomic family, low social support and low educated from south area of Iran. He believed that he hadn't glob in one orbit and one of his feet was missed. He expressed that there was a blue hole in supra thyroidal region

that passed out fluids and food and it connected with his heart. Eventually, he believed that he is dead or soul and in spite of all odd complaints, he hadn't problem for see, footslog and ingest. He was resistance to antipsychotics, completely. Delusions were formed, fixed, unshakable belief opposite overt Evidences, non-systematized and persistence as a variant documents and of Cotard's syndrome: the delusional theme was of the nihilistic [1].

In Cotard's syndrome, the key feature is the delusional and unshakable belief that parts of the patient's body are missing or dysfunctional. In a cohort study, the statistical analysis of a hundred-patient cohort indicates that the denial of self-existence is a symptom present in 69 percent of the cases of Cotard's syndrome; yet, paradoxically, 55 percent of the patients might present delusions of immortality [2]. Successful pharmacological treatments (mono-therapeutic and multi-therapeutic) using antidepressant, antipsychotic, and mood stabilizing drugs; likewise, with the depressed patient, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) is more effective than pharmacotherapy [3].

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Figure 1 Delusional beliefs of a schizophrenic patient with Cotard's syndrome.