

Psychiatric disturbances in children of chronic schizophrenic patients

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This study tried to know the incidence and the characters of behavioral, emotional and psychiatric disturbances in children of chronic schizophrenic parents. Thirty chronic schizophrenic patients (married and have children) and a matched control group were included in this study. All were assessed by PSE, global scholastic achievement, EPQ and child attitude questionnaire. The results showed that diseased parents were of significant differences in rejecting attitude (12/46). Sleep disturbance recorded a high incidence of significance in both night terrors and night mares among the studied cases. The present mental state examination revealed both depressed and indifferent mood of statistical significance in the studied cases. Obsessional symptoms and hysterical reaction appeared in the studied cases, especially hysterical fits in female cases. Five children reported diagnostic criteria of schizophrenic syndrome, ten of their sibs also were schizophrenics. Female groups reported low scores on E scale. Also, they obtained a higher incidence of significance on I scale comparing with the control group, although girls in general used to obtain higher scores on this scale.