

Life-events and schizophrenia : A case-control study

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This work aimed to study the role of life events in the causation or precipitation of schizophrenia cross-sectional cohort study.

Forty schizophrenic patients (20 males and 20 females) selected from the patients attending the diagnosis according to ICD 9 and matched with 40 controls.

The study concentrated on two periods in the life of the patients, the first ten years and the three years prior to the illness short of the last six months.

All were assessed by a semi-structured interview and checklist. An excess of number of events was recorded in schizophrenic patients than the normal control group prior to the development of the illness, e.g. father's loss, death of spouse, moving to another house, troubles at work, divorce, entering military service and major physical illness.

Work trends in the life events were higher in the schizophrenic subjects compared with the controls, mainly in association with recent parental loss.