

The impact of relapse of schizophrenia on patient's functions & their families

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Aim of the work aimed to identify the impact of relapse of schizophrenia on patient's functions & their families.

Fifty schizophrenic relapsed patients are subjected to interview schedule questionnaire in addition to Taylor anxiety scale to assess the impact of relapse of schizophrenia on the patients and 50 family members (caregivers for those patients), are subjected to another interview schedule questionnaire.

There is no significant relation between frequency of schizophrenic relapse & the personal hygiene of the patients. There are significant correlation between frequency of patient's relapse and the following; interaction with their families, their work capacity & patient's anxiety level. The impact of patient's relapse on caregivers reveals; affection of caregiver's work (40.5% suffered from difficulty in performance & 34% have loss of interest in work), financial problems (74% of caregivers have financial problems related to costs of treatment, loss of patient's productivity & loss of caregiver's work) , caregiver's physical complains (headache, insomnia & loss of appetite) & caregiver's psychological symptoms (anxiety, sadness & fear). Frequent relapses of schizophrenia leads to decrease in social network, work capacity, also it increases the anxiety, and reduces the function of patient's family. Moreover, the frequent relapses of schizophrenia leads to the following; the family suffers from physical and psychological health problems, the family social network decreases and the family exposes to financial and work problems.