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Patricide, matricide: A comparative study among Tunisian patients with psychotic disorders

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Parricide is defined as the homicide of a father or mother by a biological or adopted child. In adults, it is generally associated to a psychotic condition. Scientific research on the subject, have been mainly interested in matricide, patricide or double parricide. Studies comparing authors of patricide to those of matricide are rare. Objectives To compare socio-demographic and clinical profiles of patricide and matricide patients.

To compare modus operandi in matricide and patricide patients. *Methods* A retrospective, descriptive and comparative study was conducted, based on medical charts' consult. Were included patients suffering from psychotic disorders (DSM-IV), hospitalized in the forensic psychiatry department of Razi hospital between 1995 and 2015, after not being held for insanity according to article 38 of Tunisian Criminal Code. Only patients who committed patricide or matricide were included.

Results Our sample included 26 patients (13 patricides; 13 matricides). There was non-significant differences between two groups concerning: instructional level (P=0.277), professional status (P=0.387) and marital status (P=0.790). Committers of patricide and matricide did not differ in terms of psychiatric diagnosis (P=0.242) and substance abuse (P=0.550). A significant difference was found between the two groups in terms of schizophrenia subtypes, patricide patients suffered from a disorganized schizophrenia whereas matricide patients suffered from paranoid subtype (P=0.05). Patricide was more frequently associated to a conflictual relationship between son and father (P=0.05). We did not record a significant difference in the crime weapon or its motivations.

Conclusion Our results helps draw a profile for parricide patients in order to help identify the ones at risk.

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Mentally ill patients who committed sexual and physical assaults: A study about 37 cases of expertise reports

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Introduction Several studies suggest the existence of a relationship between major mental disorders and crime. However, it is important to emphasize that violent behaviors do not affect all patients and that issues of criminality among mentally ill persons only represents a small proportion.

Aims The objective of this study is to establish the general and clinical profile of perpetrators of sexual and physical assaults.

Methods This is a retrospective study of the records of forensic psychiatric expertise, conducted in the psychiatry department of the University Hospital of Mahdia during the period from May 1st 2000 to May 31st 2013.

Results The general profile of the population the study was characterized by a mean age of 39 years, a sex ratio of 8.25, unemployment in 73% of cases and by the presence of a psychiatric personal history 54% of cases. Sexual and physical assaults accounted for 54.5% of cases. It was essentially in descending order:

assault and battery (65%), rape (16.2%) and incest (5.4%). As for the clinical profile, schizophrenia and epilepsy were recorded each in 13.5% of cases, major depressive disorder in 8.1% of cases, bipolar disorder in 5.4% and substance abuse in 5.4% of cases. A personality disorder was observed in 48.6% cases, essentially antisocial personality (55%). Comorbidity with addictive behavior was observed in 56.7% of cases.

Conclusion It is necessary to characterize a subgroup of patients with mental disorders, likely to commit violent crimes, in order to prevent acting out behaviors and adapt their management.

Disclosure of interest The authors have not supplied their declaration of competing interest.

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Acute psychotic disorder and forensic acts: About 25 cases

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Background The aim of this study was to identify the sociodemographic status and clinical features of patients with acute psychotic disorder and who committed a medicolegal act, seek acute psychosis implicated and raise the characteristics of this medicolegal acts.

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Methods We performed a retrospective study of 25 male patients with acute psychotic disorder. They were involuntary hospitalized in the medicolegal department of Razi, according to Article 29 of Law after committing a medicolegal act because of dementia within the meaning of article 38 of the Tunisian Penal Code.

Results It was about a young person, average age of 27.32 years, family cohesion was often present (80%), with forensic history (20%), violence history (20%) and substance abuse (40%), having a personality disorder (25%), having a precipitating factor (32%), having an acute psychotic episode (72%), repetitive acute psychotic episode (16%), a first manic episode (8%) and drug-related psychotic disorder (4%). They had committed by order of frequency serious physical assault (43.5%), attempted murder, assault and injury followed by attacks against property (40%). The victim was mostly a family member (40%), without determination, under the influence of toxic substances (16%) and motivated by delusions of persecution (51%). The acting out was recognized (68%). The majority was indifferent (92%) and does nothing (68%).

Conclusion The first-episode psychosis have a high-risk of acting out, early treatment may prevent some medicolegal acts. Preventing of acting out in the psychotic involves the identification of risk factors and an early treatment of mental disease.

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Stalking and its forensic psychiatric assessment

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Introduction Stalking, a dangerous persecution, gained attention because of persecution of celebrities by fans suffering by mental disorders. In psychiatry, there is no consensus about the exact