

EV0341

Impact of illness course perception on desire for social distance towards people suffering from schizophrenia in Hanoi, Vietnam

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Introduction In Vietnam, as well as in other low and middle-income countries, stigmatization and discrimination of mentally ill patients is highly prevalent.

Objectives It is important to identify determinants of stigmatization in a socio-cultural context as they may reveal anchor points for anti-stigma efforts.

Aims This population based study conducted in urban and rural Hanoi aims to explore whether public perception of prognosis and course of illness concerning people with symptoms indicating schizophrenia have an impact on the desire for social distance, an important factor of stigmatization.

Methods Based on a population survey using unlabelled vignettes for schizophrenia carried out in the greater Hanoi area in 2013, a sum score of the Social Distance Scale was calculated. A regression analysis was carried out to examine the impact perception of prognostic factors on the desire for social distance. The stratification of the sample ($n=455$) was representative in terms of gender, age, urbanity and household size to the Hanoi population according to the 2013 census.

Results Factor analysis revealed three independent factors of prognosis perception:

- 1. lifelong dependency on others;
 - 2. loss of social integration and functioning;
 - 3. positive expectations towards treatment outcome.
- Both negative prognostic ideas (1,2) were significantly correlated with more desire for social distance in schizophrenia.

Conclusion Stronger desire for social distance was observed among people with negative expectations about the prognosis of persons suffering from psychotic symptoms. Thus, our study indicates a link between social acceptance and ability to maintain a social role in the Vietnamese society.

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

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.eurpsy.2017.01.671>

EV0342

Stories of exceptional survivors who visit aboriginal healers: Cross-cultural lessons for psychiatry

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Introduction Indigenous communities exist within most countries. These communities often have their own informal and invisible (to their mainstream neighbors) systems of health care. We wondered what happened to people who approached traditional community healers for help with mental health problems.

Methods We interviewed 100 people who had received mental health diagnoses from conventional practitioners and then sought traditional community healers for help. We compared them to a matched population from a computer database who did not seek traditional healers. Patients who visited the healers did statistically significantly better than the comparison group. Panels of naïve graduate students evaluated patient interviews and picked themes that consistently emerged. Scenarios were developed to rate patients along these dimensions from “1” to “5”. New panels did the ratings. Comparisons were made between these 2 groups of people, and those who improved with healers had more change from before to after treatment on the dimensions of Present-centeredness; Forgiveness of others; Release of blame, bitterness, and chronic anger; Orientation to process versus outcome; Sense of Humor; Sense of Meaning and Purpose; and Faith and Hope. The patients who worked with the healers had a new and plausible (to the patient, his or her family, and the healers) explanation for why he or she got well, including a story reflecting a belief about how he or she can stay well; supportive community who believes in the person’s cure.

Conclusions The treatment provided by conventional healers produces measurable changes in several parameters associated with improved mental health.

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

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.eurpsy.2017.01.672>

EV0343

Mental health consequences of bride kidnapping in the Kyrgyz republic

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The consequences of gender-based violence (GBV) in the Kyrgyz Republic have often remained outside of both police officers’ and mental health care specialists’ attention. Statistical data on gender-based violence in the Kyrgyz Republic are underestimated, given that the majority of victims prefer not to seek help at all. One of the types of GBV in the Kyrgyz Republic is bride kidnapping, which is still very popular in rural areas of the state. Brides, that were kidnapped, present common behaviors and symptoms, such as an submissiveness, idealization of a husband, numbing, permanent desire to please a mother-in-law and other relatives of higher status in the family. Problems with the urogenital system, such as signs of urethritis and cystitis, vaginal itching, menstrual irregularities are also very common among daughters-in-law who were brutally kidnapped and had been experiencing violence from members of their families. Authors present an algorithm of dealing with the problem, which has been already implemented as a pilot project in one of the regions of the state.

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

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.eurpsy.2017.01.673>

EV0344

Reflection of local and universal historical time in symptoms of paranoid schizophrenia

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