EPV0525

A patient's trajectory with autism spectrum disorder leading to forensic psychiatric institutionalisation

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Introduction: Autism-spectrum-disorder (ASD) is a heterogenous neurodevelopmental condition with a wide range of symptoms. Typical deficits, such as impairment in social communication and interactions, can lead to violent behaviours. However, ASD is often underdiagnosed and little is known about patients with ASD in forensic institutions.

Objectives: To highlight the diagnostic challenges and offending behaviour of people with ASD in the context of the criminal justice system (CJS) through a case report.

Methods: The case report is based on exploration, third party anamnesis, medical documentations and court files

Results: A 25-year-old man was placed in detention in 2021 after having committed a dangerous threat to unknown persons and was considered not guilty by reason of insanity. Since early childhood the patient presented with extreme mood swings and impulsive-aggressive outbursts that led to criminal mischief later on. During elementary school he developed concentration problems as well as specific learning deficits. Due to his deviant social behaviour, he was rejected from his peer group. Over the course of the years, he showed no significant responses to different psychopharmacological treatment approaches. His social anxiety grew and ultimately, he started experimenting with various drugs and drinking excessive amounts of alcohol, which induced multiple psychotic episodes. Due to the psychotic exacerbations, he was repeatedly admitted to psychiatric units for acute treatment, however the autistic disorder remained untreated. At the time of the crime an independent psychiatric assessor diagnosed schizophrenia simplex and multiple drug abuse. The patient had been in psychiatric treatment since the age of 5 and received multiple diagnoses such as combined personality disorder, different subtypes of schizophrenia, ADHD, Tourette syndrome, depressive disorder and ASD at the age of 14. Nevertheless, prior to his detention he had never received a complex therapy focusing on his ASD. According to the verdict he was admitted to a medium secure forensic ward in Lower Austria, where he was treated with antipsychotic and anxiolytic medication. Furthermore, he participated in the day-structuring treatment program ensuring routine.

Conclusions: Neurodevelopmental disorders such as ASD often impose a diagnostic challenge, particularly without intellectual disability. This can lead to under- and misdiagnosis, inadequate treatment or even criminal behaviour. Impaired theory of mind, poor emotional regulation and problems with moral reasoning should be recognized and treated specifically early on to prevent further damage to both the individual and society.

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EPV0526

Epidemiological, clinical, and forensic approach to a series of defendants examined in criminal psychiatric expertise

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Introduction: The transgression of the law can be a deliberate act by a lucid adult, but it can also be the result of a deficiency in judgment and discernment due to lack of age or insanity. Psychiatric expertises are more and more solicited in the penal field with the objective of identifying the causal link between mental illness and the criminal act. **Objectives:** The objective of this work was to give an overview of the subjects expertised, the offences and the pathologies encountered through the report of a psychiatric expertise activity in criminal law. **Methods:** It is a retrospective descriptive study carried out on the criminal psychiatric expertises made for a forensic act in the psychiatric department of Mahdia during the period from January 1, 2003 to March 30, 2022.

Results: In total, we collected 101 defendants. The average age of our study population was 35±12.07 years. The majority of our study sample was male (98%), from an urban area (50%). 46.6% had primary education and only 11.2% had higher education. The defendants were single in 57.8% of the cases, and almost half (45.7%) had no occupation. Two-thirds of the accused (61.2%) had experienced emotional deprivation at a young age. The problematic use of psychoactive substances was found in 10.3%, as well as alcohol consumption in 46.6%. Moreover, 39.7% of the patients had a personal psychiatric history and 19% had been incarcerated at least once. The forensic acts were mostly against people (62.9%) dominated by physical aggression (33.6%) followed by homicide or its attempt in 19% of the cases. The majority of patients were not related to their victims (62.1%). The nosographic diagnosis found was a personality disorder in 32.75% of cases, followed by schizophrenic disorders in 22.4% of cases.

Conclusions: Psychiatric expertise is a useful, complex and noble clinical act. Determining the predictive factors of a possible acting out allows to specify the objectives of interventions aiming at limiting the acts of violence, hospitalizations and incarcerations of patients suffering from mental disorders.

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EPV0527

Fatal pulmonary embolism related to anti-psychotics: forensic implications. About four autopsy cases with review of the literature

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