

through psychotherapy gradually release the old family roles and experiment with new models of behaviour and thus change internalized object representations.

Aim The aim of this study was to investigate changes in object relationships and self-esteem in the psychodynamic group psychotherapy in young patients suffering from schizophrenia.

Subjects and methods The study included a total of 41 patients diagnosed with schizophrenia. Before joining the psychodynamic group therapy and after two years of participation in the treatment, all patients completed a test of object relations and the Rosenberg self-esteem scale.

Results Comparison of the results in two time periods showed downward trend results in all tested dimensions of object relations, a statistically significant difference was found for dimension symbiotic fusion: after two years of participation in the psychodynamic group psychotherapy, patients had significantly expressed less need for symbiotic relationships. Self-esteem was higher in the second period of testing, but without statistical significance.

Conclusion Taking into account the limitations of this study, we can conclude that the results are encouraging. During psychodynamic group processes in young patients with schizophrenia there is a trend of positive changes in terms of object relations and self-esteem and a significant reduction in the need for symbiotic merging.

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EV1142

The effectiveness of three psychotherapies of different type and length in the treatment of patients suffering from anxiety disorder

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Introduction Data on the comparative effect of short and long-term psychotherapy in anxiety disorder is scarce.

Aim To compare the effectiveness of two short-term therapies and one long-term psychotherapy in the treatment of patients with anxiety disorder.

Methods Altogether 50 outpatients with anxiety disorder as the only axis I diagnosis, were randomly assigned to long-term psychodynamic psychotherapy (LPP), short-term psychodynamic psychotherapy (SPP), and solution-focused therapy (SFT) and were followed for 5 years. The outcome measures were psychiatric symptoms, working ability, need for psychiatric treatment, remission, and cost-effectiveness.

Results During the first year of follow-up, no significant differences in the effectiveness between the therapies were noted. During the following 3 years, LPP and SFT more effectively reduced symptoms, improved work ability, and elevated the remission rate than SPP. No significant differences between LPP and SFT were seen. At the end of the follow-up, the use of auxiliary treatment was lowest in the SFT group whereas remission rates or changes in psychiatric symptom or work ability did not differ between the groups. The average total direct costs were about three times higher in the LPP group than in the short-term therapy groups.

Conclusions The difference in effectiveness of LPP and SFT was negligible, whereas SPP appeared less effective. Thus, the resource-oriented SFT may be a cost-effective option in this selected patient group, while unconsidered allocation of patients to LPP does not appear to be cost-effective. Given the small number of patients,

no firm conclusions should, however be drawn based on this study.

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The use of art therapy in complex treatment on the quality of remission in patients with melancholy in major depressive disorder

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Introduction According to studies done in recent years regarding the treatment of patients with melancholy in major depressive disorder, a shift of interest from studies evaluating the effectiveness of therapy to the study of remission is seen. Despite significant progress in the development of pharmacotherapy of depressive disorders, difficulty in achieving rapid reduction in depressive symptoms and stable remission in patients with melancholic depression necessitated the search for new approaches to the treatment of this pathology.

Aims Evaluating the effectiveness of art therapy in treatment in patients with melancholy in major depressive disorder on the quality of remission.

Methods The study involved 135 patients – 60 male and 75 female patients aged from 18 to 30 years old. The main group of patients apart the combined treatment also participated in group art therapy with the use of drawing techniques, while the control group – statutory standard therapy.

Results The results of the use of art therapy in complex treatment in patients with major depressive disorder is detected primarily in reducing of the level of anxiety at the early stages of treatment (60% of patients have noticed decreasing of melancholic state), as well as improving the quality of life in remission period.

Conclusion These results support the use of art therapy in treatment in patients with melancholy in major depressive disorder during period of active treatment, and after achieving clinical remission contributes to achieving and maintaining high-quality and stable remission with full restoration of quality of life and social functioning.

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Pollyanna syndrome in psychotherapy-or pseudotherapy. Counseling, consoling or counterfeiting?

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Pollyanna syndrome, the name being taken from a book of the same title, means “an excessively or blindly optimistic person.” The occurrence and danger of such attitudes in psychotherapy is discussed. Such attitudes may occur both in patients and their therapists. Either of them may say “things will not be so bad...” attempting to console not him/himself but the other party. The main aim of psychotherapy is to facilitate taking responsibility and decisions. But there are also other aims, identical to those attributed to philosophy in ancient times, namely, “to treat the soul” or, clinically speaking, to provide consolation. This is usu-