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Explore the effects of auditory hallucinatory and depressive symptoms on social interactions in patients with chronic schizophrenia: Associations across 3 months

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Background: Auditory hallucinatory and depressive symptoms are resulting in impairment of social interactions in schizophrenia patients.

Purpose: Aimed to explore the influences of auditory hallucinatory and depressive symptoms on social interactions in patients with schizophrenia across 3 months.

Methods: This was a three-month follow up study. Convenience sample was conducted in Northern medical hospitals (excluding the schizophrenia cases treated in acute ward). Qualified subjects were 187 schizophrenia patients. Instruments included four parts: Demographic data, assessment of communication and interaction skills—Chinese version (ACIS-C), characteristics of auditory hallucinations questionnaire (CAHQ) and Beck depressive inventory (BDI). assessment of communication and interaction skills was collected through individual interview or group observation, while the auditory hallucinatory and the depressive symptoms were collected by self-report. SPSS 17.0 was employed to conduct descriptive statistics on mean, standard deviation and median after the data was collected. As for the inference statistics, including t-test, one way ANOVA, Kruskal-Wallis test, Pearson Correlation, multiple regression were used to examine the important predictable variables of social interactions in schizophrenia patients.

Results: The research results are as the following: (1) Auditory hallucinatory and depressive symptoms can negatively affect the social interactions at 3-months follow up; (2) Auditory hallucinatory and depressive symptoms were important predictive factors for social interactions.

Conclusion: This research suggests nursing staffs should adopt more effective nursing interventions for auditory hallucinatory and depressive symptoms to improve social interactions.

Biography

Tzu Ting Wang has completed her Master's from Fu Jen Catholic University and she is studying for her Doctorate at National Yang-Ming University.

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