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Early detection of psychosis; why should we care?

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Psychotic disorders, and particularly schizophrenia, are generally associated with poor outcome. An important factor in this association is the period of untreated psychosis; duration of untreated psychosis (DUP). The term DUP covers a number of different elements - the reason for the delay may reside within the patient, the mechanisms of referral, or the recognition by the treating team. The start of the DUP usually is defined by the onset of clear cut positive psychotic symptoms and its end is defined by the commencement of antipsychotic treatment. Early detection teams are aimed to shorten the duration of untreated psychosis in order to achieve better functional outcome. Early detection has been mainly focused on the presence of positive psychotic symptoms like delusions and hallucinations. We showed the usefulness of broadening the focus of early detection to negative symptoms which are characterized by a decrease of the ability to emotionally respond. The relationship between duration of untreated psychosis (DUP) and negative symptoms is strong and persistent, even after 8 years of follow-up, and so far has been underestimated. Negative symptoms are resistant to treatment and therefore prevention seem the best available option to ameliorate the course of psychotic disorders. In this presentation you will learn more about the prognosis of psychotic disorder, the DUP concept will be discussed as well as interventions to shorten it and to what extent shortening of DUP will be effective.

Huddle and its meaning: Morning synergy

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Introduction: The transfer of essential information and the responsibility for care of the patient from one health care provider to another is an integral component of communication in health care. It can be noted that one of the implications is efficient care delivery. However, as this concept of information sharing becomes very crucial and useful in hospital operations, the need for the participants of the huddle to bring out their concept and significant learning may similarly be relevant and be understood.

Research Questions: What are the common themes emerging from the word descriptors from the participants of the AM huddle? What important learning can be derived from the AM huddle? What eidetic symbol maybe used to describe AM Huddle?

Instrumentation: The AM Huddle Tool was an open ended tool that have asked the participants to write short answers to three questions related to the activity.

Analysis of Data: Data was analyzed utilizing three layers of reduction process of written statements. Three levels of coding were similarly done to come up with a sub themes and major themes.

Results: Relationship and Team Work are the themes of the AM Huddle. The meaning associated with the themes was synergy. Working as a team was the significant learning of the participants in the AM Huddle. The synergy towards the resolution of issues and concerns raised during the huddle was likewise highlighted. The symbol derived from the themes was yin yang. This symbol represents the significant learning of the huddle and the product of the relationship created by the team work.

Recommendations: The AM Huddle as a relevant avenue for collaboration and teamwork among members of the health team should be continued. Synergy as a source of harmony should be fostered across the hospital operations.