



A 10 YEAR STUDY OF DISSOCIATIVE STUPOR AND POSSESSION IN PSYCHIATRY OPD

Vineet Kumar Singh	Head, Psychiatry Unit, Department Of Medicine, MLN Medical College, Prayagraj
Dinesh Chandra Dua	Dua Neuropsychiatric Centre, Lakhimpur Kheri, PIN-26701
Pratham Dua	Dua Neuropsychiatric Centre, Lakhimpur Kheri, PIN-26701
Zeeshan Anwar	Senior Resident, Psychiatry Unit, Department Of Medicine, MLN Medical College, Prayagraj
Chhitij Srivastava*	Associate Professor, Psychiatry Unit, Department Of Medicine, MLN Medical College, Prayagraj *Corresponding Author

ABSTRACT The aim of the present study is to identify the incidence of Dissociative Stupor and Possessions in psychiatry OPD population. 8.92% of patients in last 10 years were in the screening group. There were 10.03% of the subjects in 2007 sliding through to 7.76% in 2016, a visible decline. Males are affected earlier (mean age 18.59 years) than females (mean age 23.4 years). The study also proved that females far outnumber males in this category of illness but in the ages between 6 to 12 years, this relationship is reversed.

KEYWORDS : Dissociative, Stupor, Possessions

INTRODUCTION-

Dissociative Disorders are not as rare as are thought to be. Sar et al 2000, reported 12% incidence of Dissociative Disorder in a psychiatric outpatient clinic in Turkey. Sar et al 2007 also reported an incidence as high as 34.9% in emergency psychiatry OPD. Foote et al 2006 turned out with a 29% incidence in inner city hospital based psychiatry OPD. Chaturvedi et al 2009 reported an incidence between 1.5 and 15 per 1000 in an institute in India including both inpatients and out patients. Nandi et al 1992 suggested that hysteria is on the wane in a study in west Bengal villages. However, most of the studies suggest an incidence of 85-100 per 1000 of psychiatry OPD population. All the above studies also suggested a 4:1 ratio in favor of females across all ages.

OBJECTIVE:

To study the incidence of Dissociative Stupor and Possessions in psychiatry OPD population and to analyze the age distribution. As the three year and seven year earlier study showed an inverse gender relationship in 6-12 year age group, so to analyze the gender distribution in 6-12 year age group and compare it with the rest. This is a longitudinal research of 15 years of which the data of last ten consecutive years is presented and analyzed here.

METHOD:

All new patients attending psychiatry OPD in MLN Medical College, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh and a private psychiatry OPD in a small township of India at Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh were screened to identify cases of Dissociative Disorder according to ICD 10, F44.2 and F44.3 from the 1st of January to 31st of December each year from 2007 to 2016. From these screened cases, only those presenting with fits of unconsciousness and possession, were analyzed and compared with the other years for the same period.

RESULTS:

Out of the total 48669 new patients seen in the ten years (26843 males and 21826 females) 4343 patients, (8.92%), fell into the screened

group (883 males and 3460 females – 1.81% and 7.11% respectively). When compared within, there were 10.03% of the subjects in 2007 sliding through to 7.76% in 2016, a visible decline. The mean age of patients in males and females was also quite similar through the years. The mean age of the subject group was 18.59 years for males and 23.4 years for females. The range of mean age for males was between 17.4 and 20.2 years while for females, it was between 22.1 and 23.86 years during the study period of ten years.

Figure 1- Number Of Subjects

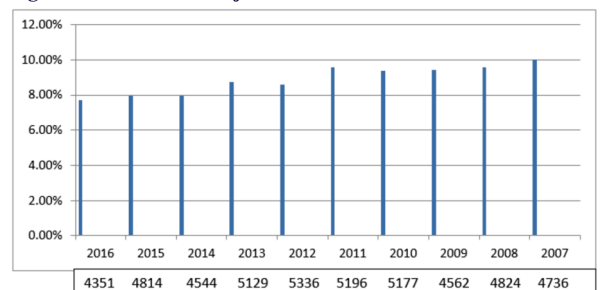


Figure 2- MALE & FEMALE SUBJECTS EACH YEAR

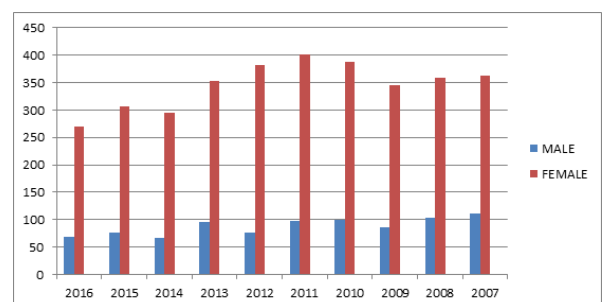


Table 1-DATA FROM 2007 - 2016

ALL patients (year)	4351 (2016)	4814 (2015)	4544 (2014)	5129 (2013)	5336 (2012)	5196 (2011)	5177 (2010)	4562 (2009)	4824 (2008)	4736 (2007)
MALES	2594	2691	2528	810	2838	2938	857	377	2670	2540
FEMALES	1757	2123	2016	2319	2498	2258	2320	2185	2154	2196
SUBJECTS	7.7%	7.96%	7.96%	8.75%	8.58%	9.6%	9.4%	9.45%	9.56%	10.03%

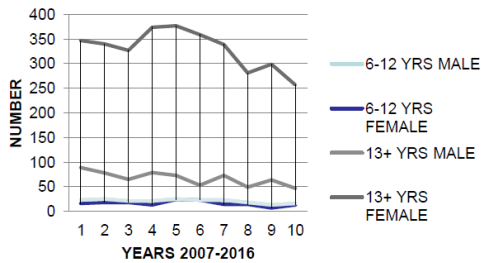
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MALE SUBJECTS	68	77	67	96	76	98	100	86	103	112
% OF MALES	2.6%	2.86%	2.65%	3.41%	2.68%	3.33%	3.5%	3.61%	3.86%	4.41%
% OF ALL	1.56%	1.6%	1.47%	1.87%	1.42%	1.89%	1.93%	1.88%	2.13%	2.36%
FEMALE SUBJECTS	270	306	295	353	382	401	387	345	358	363
% OF FEMALES	15.37%	14.41%	14.63%	15.22%	15.3%	17.7%	18.68%	15.79%	16.62%	16.53%
% OF ALL	6.2%	6.36%	6.49%	6.88%	7.16%	7.71%	7.47%	7.56%	7.42%	7.66%

Figure 3-GENDER DIFFERENCE



CONCLUSION:

The above study, therefore, supports the observation that there is a visible decline in incidence of dissociative stupor and possession from 10.03% to 7.76% in ten consecutive years. This decline does not dilute the fact that this illness cannot be ignored considering the number of man hours going into its management. This study also showed that males are affected earlier (mean age 18.59 years) than females (mean age 23.4 years), may be because of career planning in boys begins at this age and marital life of females is planned around 22 years, the periods just before and after are stressful. The study again proved that females far outnumber males in this category of illness but in the ages between 6 to 12 years, this relationship is reversed. The boys outnumber girls in this category in almost all the ten years (Chi Square= 2382.75; p<.001) as compared to the 13+ group. In 2009, when boys and girls are equal in number, even then the significance is p<.001 when compared with the 13+ group. In 2015, the ratio is almost 2:1. This inverse relationship may be attributed to the fact that boys are more pampered in the society as compared to girls; the boys are also expected to get into the earning lot in the family as early as possible in some communities. Statistical analysis has proved the significance in the ten years and it is to be seen if repeated when all 15 years are analyzed.

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