



MAN TURNING INTO WOLF-POSSIBLE?

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ABSTRACT Lycanthropy is the mythological aptitude or power of a human being to endure transformation into an animal alike state, such as a werewolf. Lycanthropy is an infrequent variant of a delusional misidentification syndrome specifically opposite inter-metamorphosis where patients have faith in that they are experiencing alteration or have transformed into an animal. A case report of this miracle is discussed. A case was reported of Clinical lycanthropy phenomenon of a 25-year-old male who whispered himself to be transformed into a buffalo after bestiality along with developing obsessive-compulsive scenery. A case report sideways with a literature review arrangement the basis of discussion. Clinical lycanthropy has been described with various neuropsychiatric conditions as well as primary psychotic and affective conditions, drug intoxication and extraction, cerebrovascular disease, traumatic brain injury, dementia, delirium, and seizures, but its connotation in the context of obsessive-compulsive and related disorders (OCRDs) is a very rare finding. A variance of OCRD should be given due reputation and managed accordingly when dealing with lycanthropy, which may help in early identification and management.

KEYWORDS : Delusions, Zoanthropy, reverse inter-metamorphosis, neuropsychiatric, Dementia, Delirium, Drug Intoxication, Anubis, kynanthropy,

INTRODUCTION

Clinical Lycanthropy is a unique type of psychiatric syndrome within which the patient will have the delusional belief of turning into a wolf. Zoanthropy is a psychiatric syndrome within which the patient has the delusional belief of turning into an animal¹. Zoanthropy is observed on all continents and animals can be lions, tigers, hyenas, sharks, or crocodiles². Wolf transformations have been mentioned since Ancient Times in myths, in popular culture but also in the physician's observations³.



This Clinical Lycanthropy name is associated with the mythical condition of lycanthropy, a supernatural affliction in which humans are said to physically shapeshift into wolves.⁴

Lycanthropy is an infrequent form of delusion or scarce belief that one has renovated into a non-human animal or exhibitions behaviour or feelings indicative of such a belief. It is a rare and abnormality of delusional misidentification syndrome (DMS) unambiguously reverse inter-metamorphosis where patients have faith in that they are experiencing transformation or have transformed into an animal creature. DMS is seen in association with several neuropsychiatric conditions, including primary psychotic and affective conditions, drug intoxication and withdrawal, cerebrovascular disease, traumatic brain injury, dementia, delirium, and seizures.⁵

A "two-factor theory" has been proposed for lycanthropy where the primary trigger for delusion formation likely involves a mismatch in the individual's neural representation of his "Self"⁶. The second factor is well-thought-out to be impairment in the belief-evaluation system that averts the delusional explanation from being rejected.⁷

METHODOLOGY

This detailed review includes revealed data about Clinical Lycanthropy,

overviewed information with possible treatments have been discussed in this present article. This information collected through computerized search from numerous review & research articles along with a number of well-known websites.

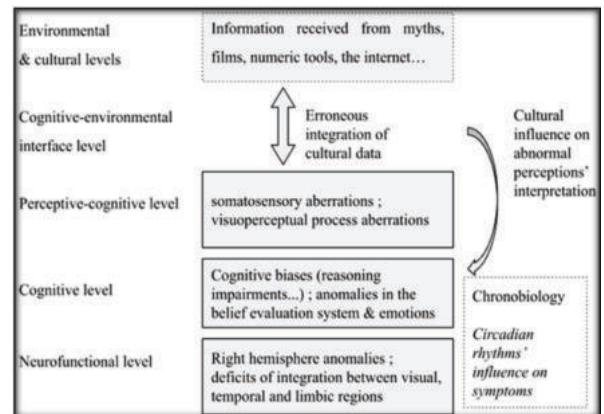
History

The oldest known writings mentioning lycanthropy are found in the Greek myth of Lycaon, the King of Arcadia.¹⁰ The most famous case of zoanthropy is King Nebuchadnezzar II (605-562 BC) who endured delusional beef transformation delusions. The animal transformation of Nebuchadnezzar is mentioned in the Bible (Daniel 4; 29-31). In ancient Egypt, Anubis, the god of death and the inventor of embalming, is represented with the head of a jackal or, more precisely, an African golden wolf.⁸ Interestingly, in ancient Egypt, Anubis and the lunar circle are represented together, showing a very ancient association of men-wolves with the moon.⁹

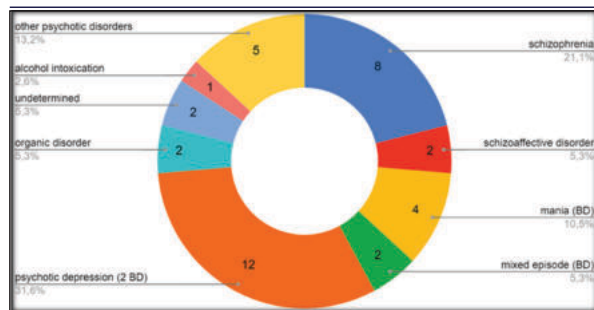
Proposed Mechanism

Clinical lycanthropy is a very rare disease condition and is largely measured to be a distinctive mien of a psychotic episode caused by another condition such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or clinical despair. It has also been associated with drug intoxication and withdrawal, cerebrovascular disease, traumatic brain injury, dementia, delirium, and seizures.¹¹

However, there are recommendations that firm neurological circumstances and cultural influences may result in the appearance of the human-animal transformation theme that defines the ailment.

**Case Reports**

In the entire world, 43 cases of lycanthropy or kynanthropy were acknowledged, including 20 cases of lycanthropy, 4 cases of fractional lycanthropy, and 19 cases of kynanthropy. These cases were testified between 1852 and 2020. Thirty-eight cases of clinical lycanthropy and kynanthropy were originate between 1970 and 2020.



The cases of clinical lycanthropy and kyananthropy were reported in the following countries USA, Western Europe (Portugal, Spain, Ireland, UK, Germany, The Netherlands) and the patients originated from these countries, or Africa; Turkey; Iran; India.

Case report 1

A 20-year-old man was admitted to a mental hospital due to his increasingly agitated and erratic behaviour. During his initial assessment, he was protected and preoccupied. He had no previous psychiatric history. Over the next few days, he displayed increasingly psychotic, animal-like behaviour. This behaviour included howling loudly, running abruptly, and crawling on all fours. He appeared to be internally stimulated. When asked about this behaviour, he was initially evasive but eventually admitted that he believed he was a werewolf and would periodically transform into a wolf. He started have confidence in having visions of "the Devil" years before and reported hearing random voices. The patient was started on ziprasidone and his symptoms gradually responded and his animal-like behaviors eventually ceased altogether.¹¹

Case report 2

A 25-year-old man was sent for treatment during a period of excessive hand-washing, irritable behaviour, decreased sleep, and acting like a buffalo. The patient reported that he had engaged in sexual activity with his buffalo and believed that buffalo cells had entered his body and were transforming him into a buffalo. He began obsessively washing his hands and genitals in order to avoid the transition. He saw himself as having buffalo body parts and became preoccupied about his appearance. He then began to act as a buffalo by nodding his head, walking on all fours, and seeking out hay and grass to eat. He was ultimately diagnosed with obsessive-compulsive disorder and body dysmorphic disorder with delusional beliefs. He was treated with fluoxetine and risperidone, and after 6 months of pharmacotherapy, his body dysmorphia and hand-washing were both reduced.¹²

Case report 3

The diagnosis was made by forensic psychiatrist Dr. Phillip Resnick in a 38-page mental health valuation of Austin Harouff. Harouff was exciting with the assassination of John Stevens III, 59, and his wife Michelle Mishcon, 53, at their home in Martin County on dated 15th August, 2016. When sheriff's delegates arrived on scene, they reported determining Harouff, then 19, lying on top of Stevens, howling and chewing on his face. Subsequently, Resnick concluded that Harouff exhibited signs of "clinical lycanthropy delusions" along with "severe mental disease" (Roustan 2019).¹³

Case report 4

A historic case I explored onsite in Austria in 2007 showed what a credulous belief in werewolves could lead to. Throughout a werewolf scare of 1715–1717, an infrequent number of cattle and deer were killed by wolves in the Moosham district. When shots to hunt them down failed, local folks determined the predators were supernatural. As a consequence, two youthful mendicants were tortured in a chamber of Moosham Castle (where I explored). They soon own up that they had indeed used an unguent on their bodies to renovate themselves into wolves. They run-away execution by being sentenced to lifelong service as Venetian galley slaves (Nickell 2011, 101–107).¹⁴

Psychiatric Treatment

At present, there is no certain treatment for clinical lycanthropy. It is assumed to be induced due to an already-existing state of psychosis, or other psychiatric syndromes such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder, and so the existing method of showing the symptoms is to treat the underlying ailment.¹⁵

In the field of clinical setting, the psychiatric organization of clinical lycanthropy ought to include research of other delusional misidentification

syndromes, given the significant clinical overlap we testified. Also, some neuropsychological tests are apposite besides the acute episodes.

The delusional refrain of animal transformation may be both rooted within the patient's psychiatric ailment, associated with mood and psychotic warning sign, and related to the cultural meaning of lycanthropy and the environmental acquaintance of the patient to these chronicles. The use of the internet and numeric tools should be evaluated. Additionally, the cultural and linguistic topographies of the patient should be evaluated, to adapt the access to care and psychotherapy to the patients' artistic background.

Given the manifestation of lycanthropy in the framework of neurological circumstances and inebriations, careful deliberation should be given to neurological exams, as well as brain imaging, EEG, and toxicological assessments. Screening sleep disorders is also pertinent.

Antipsychotic pills may be a well-organized psychopharmacological dealing for this rare transnosographic delusional syndrome. Mood disorders are highly accompanying with clinical lycanthropy. In these cases, patients remitted of clinical lycanthropy appreciations to downers plus antipsychotics in case of psychotic depression, and mood supervisors plus antipsychotics in case of bipolar disorders.

Psychotherapy is designated in mood and psychotic disorders, which are accompanying with clinical lycanthropy. To our knowledge, there is no scientific evidence concerning psychotherapy in clinical lycanthropy or zoanthropic delusions. Cognitive behavioural rehabilitation is being settled for positive symptoms; however, it is mainly premeditated in persecutory delusion (98, 107). Cognitive behavioural rehabilitation in psychosis may target cognitive biases, for example, hopping to suppositions, and help patients develop substitute clarifications to their abnormal experiences or undesirable effects.

CONCLUSION

Clinical Lycanthropy is a very rare type of psychological abnormality but can be observed and scared by seeing various social media footages. So, I, author have tried to cover the related information regarding Clinical Lycanthropy to encourage the readers about these types of rare psychological disorders. I hope that the readers have received all the information about Clinical Lycanthropy.

List of abbreviations-

DMS-Delusional Misidentification Syndrome
 OCDRs-Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders
 BC-Common Era
 USA-United States of America
 EEG- Electroencephalogram

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