

GENDER IDENTITY DISORDER IN A PATIENT WITH BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER

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Introduction: The Gender Identity Disorder (GID) is characterized by a strong sense of identity with the opposite gender, by a persistent discomfort with the one's gender and with a feeling of inadequacy to the social role of the biological gender. The possibility of a higher presence of Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) in patients with GID has been a subject of research in several studies.

The diagnosis criteria of the BPD includes a global disorder in the individual identity.

Both BPD and GID are associated with a high risk of self-mutilation and suicide.

Aims: To analyze and discuss a case report, addressing subjects related to the psychopathology, differential diagnosis and prognosis and therapeutic implications.

Methods: Our discussion is focused on a case report, that led us to a non systematic review of the literature.

Results: Our case report is related to a 20 year old man with GID and BPD. This situation is lived in a great social isolation and frequent self-mutilation episodes and suicide attempts.

The clinical outcome is aggravated by a severe instability in the personal relationships, self-image, ambitions and the future projects.

We have discussed the differential diagnosis, psychopathology, prognosis and the identity disorder that the subject presents.

Conclusion: The biologic gender, age and the treatment phase are factors that influence the risk of suicide and self-mutilation in these patients. We did not found a higher probability of BPD in a patient with GID.