

**Case Report 1**

**Dilemma of mood disorder with psychotic features and schizoaffective disorder: clinical presentation**

By  
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**Clinical case presentation**

• **Personal history**

A female patient, 20 years old, the first of 5 living siblings, student in first grade of faculty of Arts, single.

• **Summary of the present illness**

6 years ago and few months before her puberty, she gradually developed an episode of weeping, depressed mood, ill-defined fear, hypersomnia, decrease in appetite with loss of weight. psychotic symptoms in the form of visual hallucination of ugly birds and ugly illusion of her mother (she had red eyes & long white eyelashes) were present for ten weeks. This episode remitted without treatment and affected slightly her scholastic performance.

1.5 years ago, She had second episode of multiple psychotic symptoms including visual hallucination and auditory hallucination and a Delusion of reference and perscution. Nihilistic delusion (claiming that, she did not have a stomach) with stoppage of eating. were evident together with her depressed mood. She claimed that, her neighbors watching her and her family all the time, hearing their breath, her talking with her family and she reacted by refusing to change her clothes, and communicated with her family by gestures. These psychotic symptoms were associated with nervousness, easily provocation, social withdrawal, loss of weight and insomnia. She received 4 ECT sessions in a private clinic with improvement of symptoms and mild deterioration in scholastic achievement four months later, as she was in faculty in Aswan, she had symptoms of hypersomnia, refusal of eating, social withdrawal and hyperactivity and volubility, insomnia associated with excessive praying at night, attacks of weeping and laughing, and flights of ideas and she claimed that she

had a sexual relation with her cousin. At this stage, the patient came to Kasr EL Aini out-patient clinic where the patient diagnosed as major depression with psychotic features and received 4 ECTs and tricyclic antidepressants and phenothiazines with improvement of psychotic symptoms but still patient had mood swings between expansive mood and depressed mood.

• **Other relevant information**

Negative F.H. for psychiatric illness

- \* Kind caring father & mother with good relation
- \* with their offspring's in general and patient especially

The patient experienced grief reaction as she

- \* was 10 years old after death of her elder brother (he was 12 years old) by drowning, she had an intimate relationship with him and till now, she misses him

The patient had a history of 2 attempts of

- \* sexual assault at ago of 9 and 10 years
- \* No past history of medical, mental disorder
- \* or substance abuse

• **Diagnosis and Differential Diagnosis**

Patient was presented in the weekly conference of Kasr EL Aini psychiatric department on January 2004. She received two diagnoses and discussion was mainly around the differentiation between major depressive episode with psychotic features and schizoaffective disorder. Mood symptoms were clear in this case especially in the first brief episode and rapid remission was in favour of mood disorder. In the current episode although psychotic symptoms are present in the front but mood swings between election, anger and deprssed mood were also present hand in hand with the psychotic symptoms. Most of the opinions were with diagnosis of mood disorder