

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder as a Part of Prodromal Schizophrenia

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Prodromal schizophrenia presents with a wide variety of psychiatric symptoms including obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) or obsessive-compulsive symptoms (OCS). However, this differentiation between a sole diagnosis of OCD and prodromal schizophrenia seems challenging in some settings.

We present a sixteen-year-old male with six-months history of recurrent intrusive images and fearfulness, in addition to decreased socialization. He was managed as a case of prodromal schizophrenia and was treated with antipsychotics. His obsessions decreased but he continued to exhibit negative schizophrenia within two years of follow-up. Acknowledging the diversity of prodromal schizophrenia presentations rather than treating symptoms as a cross-sectional diagnosis (especially in high-risk population for psychosis) is crucial for a better management.