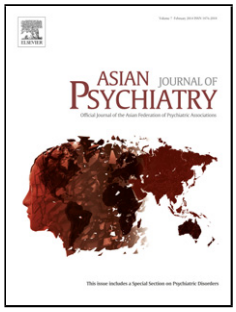

Title: Autism/Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorder Interface-The Nosological Limbo

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Autism /Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorder Interface-

The Nosological Limbo

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Bleuler considered autism as one of 4 "As" constituting fundamental symptoms of schizophrenia. Bender viewed it as childhood onset of disorder. Kolvin and Rutter instead proposed that they were distinct disorders and this is *status quo* in current classificatory systems- DSM-5 and ICD-10.

Notwithstanding, recent research has casted doubt on this delineation. Despite ostensible dissimilarities when it comes to onset and phenomenology, they have much more in commonality.

Moreover, data accrues speaking to the idea of a mean incidence of 12.8% of schizophrenia spectrum disorders (SSD) in autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and of 3.6% ASD in SSD (Davidson et al., 2014)

Both conditions have been conceptualized as neurodevelopmental rather than neurodegenerative. It is not uncommon to have motor delay, impaired receptive language, and, adjustment difficulties in prodroma of SSD (Owen eta l., 2011, Jakhar et al, 2018)

Phenomenologically, impaired social relatedness in ASD can be overconstrued as negative domain in SSD. Lack of social reciprocity can be misinterpreted as lack of rapport in SSD. Idiosyncratic interests and preoccupations can be seen delusional. Stereotypic language can be confused with disorganized speech. Moreover, catatonia can be part of both presentations. (Fung & Hardan, 2014)

ToM and mentalising impairments are hypothesized to be central to both disorders (Chung et al., 2014)

ASD and SSD rates of heritability are estimated to be as high as 50-80%. Particular CNVs are implicated in both. High rates of ASD and SSD are seen in 22q11.2 deletion syndrome (Sandin et al., 2014)

Both ASD and SSD have been found to show reduced grey matter volume (Cheung et al., 2010) Reduced fractional anisotropy values have been reported in both disorders (Mueller at al., 2012) Similarly, reductions in blood flow to the fusiform gyrus and abnormal amygdala activation during emotional perception tasks have been demonstrated in both (Abdi & Sharma, 2004)