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Thematic correlations of the patients with severe depressive episode. A case study

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Abstract

The paper presents a case study having as a purpose the identifying of the thematic correlations of a patient diagnosed with severe depressive episode that determine an increased consumption of psychological resources. The correlations are computed as dot products of the vectors containing the patient's psychological states. Seven such psychological states were identified. The significant correlations offer important information in the psychotherapeutic approach of the patient. To describe these aspects the study uses the method of latent semantic analysis.

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1. Introduction

The behavior of each and every person is governed by the simultaneous triad; psychological dynamics, physiological dynamics and scenic dynamics (Sumedrea, 2014). The role of the principal activator seems to be owned by the scenic dynamics which is unpredictable in content. The scenic dynamics generates, at the level of the person, psychological states which are capable of activating altered / unaltered psychological statuses. These ones (altered / unaltered psychological statuses) are relative stable in time.

The psychological system is capable of generating and consuming its energy (Sumedrea, A Mathematical Approach to the Dynamics of Psychological Instances, 2011). The reason of the generation of psychological energy is justified by even its consumption. The establishment of certain altered statuses is explained in terms of an inadequate consumption of psychological resources. If the reason of the existence of psychological statuses is an

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eternal unknown, the ways in which these manifest can be explained in terms of the engaged psychological resources.

Reaching a critical level of the consumption of psychological resources, which are used in the approach of adaptation, determines altered behaviors activated by the fear of psychological destruction that is unconsciously induced.

The physiological resorts are engaged in order to make the informational transactions visible at inter-personal level. The reason of these transactions finds its explanation in the process of the saturation of personality at the personal level as well as at the level of the personalities which define the group frequented by the person. The informational transactions are determined by the personalized manner in which the person interprets the scenic dynamics. Paradoxically, these interpretations seem to have at least an unconscious nature induced by the reason of the person's existence (Roderick, 2002).

Although each person represents a personalized category, however the tensional psychological activators seem to be identical at the level of any person. Their chronology determines the specific behaviors. The psychological activators generate psychological tensions, which are meant to justify the consumption of the energy produced by the psychological system.

The generation and the consumption of psychological energy represent the base level which assures the necessary conditions of manifesting of the inter-personal transactions of conscious and unconscious psychological products. These transactions are responsible for imposing of certain psychological statuses, which are relative stable in time.

2. Purpose of study

The purpose of this research consists in the identifying of the causes which determine the significant use of psychological resources at the level of the investigated patient. These causes appear under the form of significant correlations between the events which are presented by the patient or between the themes of life that belong to these events.

3. Research methodology

The research was conducted at Voila Psychiatric Hospital, Câmpina. The investigated patient is 46 years old and is diagnosed with recurrent depressive disorder, severe depressive episode. Until now he was hospitalized for three times.

The patient was asked to present three significant events of life: the happiest event, the unhappiest event and a daily one. The presence of these three events in our research is justified by the fact that the psychological experiences of the patients are parasitized by the most significant events as well as by the daily ones. For each event the themes of life were identified.

The identified themes of life were translated word by word in terms of seven psychological states: sadness, regret, anger, apathy, anxiety, fatigability and low self-esteem. The patient had the possibility to mention, in addition, other appropriate psychological states in order to express the words that are presented in the mentioned events. It is important to mention that each word had to be translated function in what the patient felt at the moment of his reporting.

Each theme could be described through a vector of statistical weights of the identified psychological states. To identify these weights, the study uses Python27 (Susan, 2005) (Markovsky, 2012) as a software for latent semantic analysis.

To assess the significant correlations the dot products between the identified themes, seen as vectors of psychological states, were calculated.

The independent themes of life are activated in a random manner without the involvement of the consciousness resort. Thus, the transmitted information that is connected to these themes is not parasitized by the consciousness and therefore, it implies a minimal consumption of psychological resources. The activation of the themes of life, which are significant dependent, requires the involvement of the consciousness filters and this fact presupposes an increased consumption of psychological resources. We consider that this aspect offers a plausible response to the

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