

Self awareness  
among patients with  
schizophrenia  
psychology essay



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Bailey et. al., conducted a study to explore the relation exist between lack of awareness of illness and the result of a cognitive deficit involving prefrontal cerebral dysfunction. This study also reveals the relationship exist with miscellaneous domains of self awareness in patients with schizophrenia and other participants with serious mental disorders. The samples were one hundred and eight patients with chronic schizophrenia and 21 patients with bipolar disorder from there major cities such as Britain, Germany and Canada. The tool used was Wisconsin card sorting test. The results explores that lack of illness awareness and other domains of self awareness is related to defective frontal lobe functioning as indexed by neuropsychological measures.

Medalia Alice and Lim Rosa (2004) conducted a study to analyze the self awareness of cognitive functioning in schizophrenia. There were 185 subjects included in this study. The clinicians ratings and objective neuropsychological test was used as a tool. The results were compared in the following cognitive domains such as attention, nonverbal memory and verbal memory. The results revealed that low self awareness was present among patients with schizophrenia.

Okumura Futoshi (2005) conducted a study to clarify the level of self-awareness among the patients with schizophrenia who have been hospitalized for more than ten years. Samples were six patients with chronic schizophrenia residing in a stand alone psychiatric hospital. Data were collected using a semi-structured interview to identify subjective self perceptions and perceptions of the world. The results revealed that patients with schizophrenia in psychiatric hospital has reduced self-assessment and

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enthusiasm. The patients had verbalized their experiences, opportunity to recognize their current self, and talking about current circumstances provided them to had better insight.

Shanthi Johnson et. al (2007) conducted a study to determine the culturally specific interpretations of insight and interrelated psychosis. One hundred and thirty one samples with schizophrenia were assessed during their initial contact with mental health services in Vellore, Tamil Nadu. Patients explanatory models, abnormalities of mind and awareness of mental illness were investigated using a standard schedule translated into Tamil. The results explored that some insight dimensions were weakly associated with severe symptoms whereas preserved insight was related with anxiety, seeking help, perception of change and supernatural forces was strongly associated with insight.

Mannarini and Lalli (2008) conducted a study to assess the self awareness of patients with schizophrenia. The Psychiatric Patient Self Awareness (PPSA) behaviour was identified using five self awareness indexes such as request, autonomy, content, relation and context. The study participants were 48 females with the mean age of 50. The self awareness rating scale was used as a tool. The result shows the level of self awareness is said to be low among patients with schizophrenia.

Starker and Singer (2010) conducted a study to reveal the daydreaming activity and self awareness of patients with schizophrenia. Standard retrospective questionnaire was used as tool. A comparison of schizophrenic patients responses with responses of college students. Factor analytic and

correlative results show considerable consistency between the retrospective and more immediate measures of daydreaming. The results revealed that patients with schizophrenia were observed to have less positive, less vivid daydreams and self awareness than college students due to the greater emphasis on fears of failure.

Renaud Jardri et. al (2011) conducted a study to explore the relationship between cortical overlaps in brain and self-awareness impairments in patients with schizophrenia. Functional magnetic resonance imaging was performed to reveal the findings. The results shows of raised overlaps between self and non-self cortical surface maps, which was considered as a neuro-physiological concept of the well established impairment in the level of self awareness among the patients with schizophrenia.

Christophe Lançon et. al (2012) conducted a study to investigate the functional substrate underlying preserved awareness of mental disorder in patients with schizophrenia. Participants included were thirty one patients with paranoid schizophrenia and eighteen healthy controls. Tool used was Scale to assess Unawareness of Mental Disorder (SUMD), Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography (SPECT) regional cerebral blood flow was compared between two groups. Patients with schizophrenia of preserved insight showed significantly raised perfusion of the bilateral precuneus in relation with the impaired insight.

Perry Mihalakos et. al (2012) conducted a study on to assess self-awareness in schizophrenia using a Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging(FMRI) to elicit judgments of self-reference in a simulated social context. The patients

with schizophrenia in experimental group was seventeen had performed clinical assessment while fifteen participants in control group was performed Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI). The participants visualized their own first name or unknown other person first name while scanned. The results revealed that significantly greater activation in schizophrenia compared to controls for cortical midline structures in response to self versus other-directed sentence-stimuli.

Francesca Ferri (2012) conducted a study to assess basic sense of self awareness on own body image among patients with schizophrenia. The study participants were twenty-one out-patients with a diagnosis of first-episode schizophrenia (FES) according to DSM-IV criteria in experimental group and 21 matched healthy control (HC) were recruited for the research study. ANOVA and post hoc analyses were performed with the Newman-Keuls method. The image has been put in a contrast state in determining a self-recognition task (visual matching) and in an explicit self or other discrimination task. The results explored that the implicit task were more accurate among healthy controls with their whereas patients with schizophrenia did not show such self-advantage where as explicit task, did not exhibit a self-advantage in both the groups and patients showed a increased percentage of self-misattribution errors.