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Comparative study in psychosomatic patients: analysis of drives and defenses in psoriatic and asthmatic patients using the David Liberman algorithm (DLA)

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1. Goal: To reasearch drives and defenses as well as their state in psoriatic and asthmatic patients and to connect the corresponding outcomes with the severity of the symptom and the grade of its medical control.

2. Method: The David Liberman algorithm (DLA), which allows to detect drives and defenses as well as their state in the discourse.

3. Procedures: A) Collecting material: application of the white sheet of the Object Relations Test, B) Analyzing the corresponding material: 1) detection of drives and defenses as well as their state in the narrated and the enacted episodes, 2) connection of these outcomes with the severity of the symptom and the grade of control by the medication.

4. Sample: 6 patients diagnosed as psoriatic (Daniel,. Nora, Vicente, Patricia, Mabel, Beatriz) and 6 diagnosed as asthmatic (Matías, Olga, María, Gabi, Elena, Luisa).

Classification of the patients from the medical perspective of the treatment:

A: Patients without a positive answer to the medication, B: Patients with a positive answer to the medication ESTO VA MÁS DESTACADO, QUIZÁS EN NEGRITA

A	B
MATIAS	ELENA
OLGA	GABI
MARIA	NORA
LUISA	VICENTE
DANIEL	BEATRIZ
PATRICIA	
MABEL	

5. Analysis: We include, as examples, 1) the analysis of the enacted scenes of a patient without narration (A), 2) the analysis of the enacted and narrated scenes of a patient

with narration (B), and 3) the analysis of the enacted and narrated scenes of Mabel's answer (C).

5. A: Analysis of the enacted scenes of the patients without narration

Patient	Illness	Drives	Defenses	State
MATIAS: (caughs) there's nothing here, it's empty. Uh... an inscription, nothing, thing nothing, totally... nothing can be seen, you can't imagine anything. There's a lot of imagination but here... nothing can be seen.	asthmatic	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Mixed
OLGA	asthmatic	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Successful
MARIA	asthmatic	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Mixed
LUISA	asthmatic	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Successful
DANIEL	psoriatic	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Mixed
PATRICIA	psoriatic	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Successful

5. B: Analysis of the enacted and narrated scenes of the patients with narrations

Patient	Speech acts				Narrations		
	Illness	Drive	Defense	State	Drive	Defense	State
<p>VICENTE: Yes there is one, here, here the person is crossing and they came from a place from a desert where there was no water and he was very, very tired and suddenly he finds this place! Which is a nice forest and not only a forest but that around it there is something like a river and there runs the water, so and he came from the desert and was tired of not seen weeds or any tree, so suddenly into the fantasy, but it's true because you are seeing it, suddenly from the desert without anything previous, suddenly the woods appear with a path and in each side of the trees and over the left of the trees and pines, mostly over the left there is a stream and after several days in which he can barely walk he arrives to those</p>	psoriatic	A2	In accordance with the goal	Successful	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Mixed

woods and feels happy, feels happy because he sees that he can extend his life that in the desert was finishing, that he can quench his thirst... and grow together with the trees... and live.							
NORA	psoriatic	A2	In accordance with the goal	Mixed	O1	Disavowal	Successful
ELENA	asthmatic	A2	In accordance with the goal	Successful	IL	In accordance with the goal	
GABI:	asthmatic	A2	In accordance with the goal	Successful	O2	Disavowal	Successful
BEATRIZ	psoriatic	A2	In accordance with the goal	Failed	O2	Disavowal	Failed

5. C: Analysis of the enacted and narrated scenes of Mabel's answer

	Speech acts				Narrations		
Patient	Illness	Drive	Defense	State	Drive	Defense	State
MABEL:	psoriatic	IL	Foreclosur	Successful	IL	Foreclosure of	Mixed

<p>and what I came through, I came through misery when I was little my mother hit me because of my step father, my mother got together two or three times with a man, I worked and she cashed, if I broke something, because I worked with bed, she hit me. Then when I got pregnant of my eldest son she kicked me to the streets, she took away my son.</p> <p>My mother hit me and later with this man the same thing, she drunk and hit me. I think..., I have 5 child, one is 22, 19, 17, 14 and 9 years old, I might be crazy I say to me inside and I always think that if my husband keeps on hitting me, I'm going to separate, I'm going to leave him, totally. I think that way, I hold on because they were all young, now they are all older. I think that way, I have it that way in my mind.</p>			<p>e of the affect</p>			<p>the affect</p>	
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6. Discussion

6. 1: The presence-absence of narrations and the answer to medication

Without narration		With narration	
4 asthmatic patients 2 psoriatic patients	Patients without positive answer to medication	2 asthmatic patients 3 psoriatic patients	Petients with positive answer to medication

With narration	
1 psoriatic patient (Mabel)	Patient without positive answer to medication

. Among the total of the patients, the 58,30% did not have a positive answer to medication and the 41,60%, did have it.

. Among the 7 patients without positive answer to medication, 6: the 85,70%, can not manage to constitute narrations.

. Among the 5 patients with a positive answer to medication, the 100% managed to construct the narration. In Nora, we observe that she only reaches to describe a state. Regarding the type of somatic illness, no significative differences are observed: the patients that do not construct narration are 57% psoriatics and 43% asmathics.

In the narrations of the 6 patients with narrations, IL and foreclosure of the affect prevail in 2 cases (33 %), O2 and disavowal in 2 cases (33 %), O1 amd disavowal in 1 case (16,5 %) and IL and the defense in accordance with the goal in 1 case (16,5 %).

6. 2. Speech acts and the answer to medication

6 patients without positive answer to medication have interferences in the construction of narrations and manifest the relevance of IL combined with foreclosure of the affect in a mixed or successful state.

. 5 patients with positive answer to medication construct speech acts where predominates A2 combined with the defense in accordance with the goal.

. 1 patient: Mabel can construct a narration, but appealing to a cathartic discourse (IL and successful foreclosure of the affect) in her speech acts level, and does not have positive answer to medication

5 Patients with positive answer to medication		7 Patients without positive answer to medication	
Speech acts	A2 in accordance with the goal	Speech acts	L1 foreclosure of the affect in a mixed or successful state

7. Conclusion:

The relevant factor that might make the difference between those patients that have a positive answer to medication and those that do not have it, is not the construction of narrations, but the presence or absence of A2 in the speech acts expressing the act of narrating.