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**THE CLINICAL EVOLUTION OF SCHIZOPHRENIA: A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY AFTER 25 YEARS**

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M. Ienciu<sup>1</sup>, F. Romosan<sup>1</sup>, C. Bredicean<sup>1</sup>, M. Cristanovici<sup>2</sup>, M. Hurmuz<sup>2</sup>, C. Giurgi-Onocu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Neuroscience, "Victor Babes" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania ; <sup>2</sup>Neuroscience, "Eduard Pamfil" Psychiatry Clinic, Timisoara, Romania

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Schizophrenia represents one of the pathologies that are studied extensively in the field of psychiatry, from different perspectives: genetic, psychopathological, clinical and therapeutic. From a longitudinal perspective, the clinical evolution and global functioning of the person are highly significant. The majority of clinical studies are cross-sectional, with a decreased frequency of longitudinal studies. Although the latter types of studies are more expensive, they are able to provide a higher quality of information.

**Objectives.** The analysis of the clinical outcome of a sample of subjects with schizophrenia, after 25 years of evolution.

**Aim.** Highlighting some clinical and socio-demographic aspects that might play a role in the heterogeneity of the actual clinical status.

**Methodology.** The study sample includes 50 subjects, admitted for the first time in the Psychiatric Clinic of Timisoara during 1985-1987, who were diagnosed with schizophrenia at onset and currently have the same diagnosis (2012). The following parameters were analysed: socio-demographic (gender, age at onset, education, family and professional status) and clinical (type of onset, symptomatology, number of admissions).

**Results.** The onset was insidious in the majority of cases. There were statistically significant differences between the types of symptoms at onset and the actual clinical status.

**Conclusions:** The clinical outcome in schizophrenia can vary significantly among patients, even if the diagnosis remains stable over time.