

The class of ... together ...
 - meet. that they are combining ...
 - observation refers to recording ...
 by unbalanced ...
 Abnormal Psychology
 neurosis
 Compulsion
 psychopathology

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Present the overall picture of a patient of obsessive Compulsive neurosis. or Dis-tinguish between Obsession & Compulsion.
 Discuss the Clinical features & dynamics of Obsessive Compulsive reaction. or Discuss the symptoms & etiology of Obsessive Compulsive neurosis.

Ans. (Obsessive Compulsive neurosis is a neurotic disorder.) This neurotic disorder is a Composite of Obsession & Compulsion.

Obsession means the absurd ideas which persistently originate in the mind of the patient. The patient understands that such recurring ideas are absurd & meaningless but he is unable to check such ideas. On the other hand Kisker 1981 says "an obsession is an idea or thought that is silly, absurd, or apparently meaningless yet one that the obsessive person cannot get rid of." On the other hand Compulsions are repetitive actions over which the patient has no control, although he understands that such actions are silly & absurd. Kisker says "Compulsions are obsessions carried out into action" (Thus Obsession & Compulsion are the two sides of the same coin. Hence they are treated as one and the same neurotic reaction known as obsessive Compulsive neurosis.

Differences between Obsession & Compulsion

Kindred says that an idea or thought that is silly, absurd or apparently meaningless, yet the obsessive person can not get rid of it.
 On the other hand compulsions are repetitive actions over which the patient has no control although he understands that such actions are silly & absurd.
 In other words, these are repetitive actions over which the patient has no control although he understands that such actions are silly & absurd but is unable to control them.

Symptoms (Clinical Picture) - The

Symptoms:-

The following are the symptoms or clinical pictures of a patient suffering from obsessive compulsive neurosis

(1) Washing Rituals

Washing ritual:- This is a very common symptom of a compulsive neurotic patient. The patient is found washing his hands, clothes or any other thing frequently. The patient knows that there is no apparent reason behind such behavior but he or she is unable to resist from doing such behavior. Kinker

This is very common symptom of an obsessive compulsive patient. The patient washes his hands & his clothes frequently. The patient knows that there is no apparent reason for such behavior.

Kinker quoted a female patient who had to wash her hands very frequently. She was never satisfied before her fingers became reddish after repeated rubbing. Similarly Lady Macbeth of Shakespeare's drama 'Macbeth' suffered from hand washing ritual. She went on washing her hands over & over until the skin was red & raw. It should be noted that such behavior may be observed in a normal person also but the difference lies in the fact that a normal person is satisfied after washing his or his hands after a very short repetition, but the patient is not satisfied before doing it time & again.

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(2) Counting Ritual

Counting Ritual - - This is also a common symptom of the patient of obsessive compulsive neurosis. Some patients sit at a particular place & goes on counting the incoming & the outgoing of vehicles.

This is another form of symptom of obsessive compulsive patient.

(4) Collecting Rituals: (4)
Some Patients are in habit of collecting useless objects such as used stamps & other rubbish things.

They very well understand that such behavior is unwelcome & unwanted but they are unable to restrain themselves from doing it. If the patients are not allowed to do such behavior, they become anxious & restless. However a normal person sometimes may commit such behavior but he is not restless & anxious for repeating it.

(5) Kleptomania

5) Kleptomania - It means a strong desire to steal. The patient suffers from the urge to steal, which is very strong & uncontrollable. The patient understands that stealing is meaningless & aimless. But he or she is helpless & cannot remain peaceful without stealing. ~~Kisler~~ It should be noted that Kleptomania differs from ordinary stealing. An ordinary stealer steals something for the fulfilment of some objective. On the other hand the patient steals something without any operant objective. Kisler has coated one young woman who was caught red handed after a record of 136 stolen meals. She was asked "Why did you steal?" she replied "I don't know. There

This is also a common symptom of obsessive patients. It means the patient has a strong desire to steal which is uncontrollable.

The patient knows that stealing is bad & wishes to control it.

The patient steals without any motive or objective for stealing although it is ordinary stealing. There is nothing to steal. Kisler reported about a woman who used to steal.

h. without any h. time to steal
but she compelled to steal from within
This indicates that
Kleptomania is
based on some
unconscious
motivation.

something in me that Compells
me to do it." This clearly indicates
that Kleptomania is not based on any
apparent motive of the patient
rather it is based on some unconscious
motivation.

6) Pyromania
It means desire
of the patient to
set fire. Such
patients set fire
without any ill
motive against
any one.
A normal person
sets fire to gain
some definite
aim or objective
which he has
in mind.
Kisner reported
of a Baltimore
14 yr. boy who used
set fire by compulsion
from within.
This abnormal
that pyromania
is also based on
some unconscious
motivation.

6) Pyromania — This means the desire
to set fire. The patient is interested
in setting something on fire. He under-
stands that setting fires may cause
harms to others, & to himself but he
is unable to check himself from
setting fires. Here also Pyromania
is diff. from ordinary setting fires. A
normal person sets fire for achieving
some tangible goals. On the other
hand the patient has no tangible
goal & he does it only because he
gets satisfaction out of it. Kieber has
reported as 14 yr. old Baltimore boy
who committed setting fires a number of
times. At last he was caught & he
confessed that he committed such
behav. due to the compulsion from
within. This indicates that pyromania
is also based on some hidden moti-
vation.

7) Suspicion & doubt
This is very common
symptom of obsessive
patients. Here
the patients show
various types of
doubt & suspicion.

7) Suspicion & doubt — This is also
very common symptom of obsessive
compulsive neurosis. The patient suffers
from various types of doubts & suspicion.

General, I think it's that they have not checked the door properly & will it come again.

Normal person if time & again & go on checking it before they fall asleep or are exhausted. A normal person also may have doubt at his or her bed during night whether the door is locked. The door is checked once or twice & the doubt is undone. On the other hand the patient is satisfied only after checking it until he or she is exhausted. Some patients doubt that they can do a good job. Some who had abnormal doubt that their husbands or wife are faithful. Kisker has reported an 8 yr. old daughter.

Suspensions. Some patients doubt if they have locked the door or not. They check it time & again & go on checking it before they fall asleep or are exhausted. A normal person also may have doubt at his or her bed during night whether the door is locked. The door is checked once or twice & the doubt is undone. On the other hand the patient is satisfied only after checking it until he or she is exhausted. Some patients doubt that they can do a good job. Some who had abnormal doubt that their husbands or wife are faithful. Kisker has reported an automobile mechanic who developed the idea of that he was not the real father of the ~~set~~ eight yr. or old daughter.

Hypo. 8) is the abnormal fear about his health. The patient thinks he has been infected by a dangerous disease & he is going to die very soon. Kisker (1981) reported a woman who had a severe obsessive fear of broken her food.

Hypochondria - In certain cases of Obsessive Compulsive neurosis hypoch. of Complaints relating to physical health are also observed. Some patients develop the idea that they are going to die very soon. Some patients develop the idea that they are in the clutches of dangerous diseases and the recovery is the far gone possibility. Kisker (1981) has reported the example of a woman who developed the idea of that their might be broken glass in her food.