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## REACTIONS OF PSYCHOTIC PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILY CAREGIVERS TOWARDS HOSPITALIZATION

**Introduction:** Psychiatric hospital is still the main setting for the care of the mentally disturbed people, particularly in the developing countries hospitalization is generally a stressful experience and can be viewed as crisis situation for patients and their family which affects their willingness and cooperation in the treatment as psychiatric treatment begins with the initial interview, patients and their family caregivers reactions and feelings about hospitalization should be investigated to secure better prognosis.

**Aim of the Study:** To determine the reactions of psychotic patients and their family caregivers towards hospitalization in mental hospital.

**Results:** The main results obtained are more than half of the subjects (56%) were diagnosed as schizophrenics. The majority of the studied patients (83.3%) were seen by a private doctor. Nearly three quarters of the studied subjects (73.3%) reported that they were not informed about the admission to the hospital. Half of the studied patients (50%) stated that they were cheated by family, (24%) were admitted either by force or police and only (20.6%) were admitted voluntary, (41.3%) of the studied patients expected that they will be stigmatized by hospitalization. Patients reporting negative feelings towards their hospitalization while the majority of family caregivers (86.7%) reacted positively to their patient hospitalization. The majority of the studied caregivers (83.3%) stated that admission of patient to hospital not cause any problems at home, while (16.7%) stated that admission of the patient to the hospital cause problems at home as negligence of the children caring and financial problems.

**Conclusion:** The main recommendations yielded by this study, the patient should be informed about the reasons for admission, treatment plan and the estimated length of stay. This will make admission less traumatic. There is a need to educate the community about mental illness to try to dispel the stigma and wrong beliefs concerning patients.

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Sawsan Kamal Khalil EL Galad is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatric Nursing and Mental Health, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, KSA. She has 20 years of teaching experience in the field of Nnursing. She obtained her BNSc, MNSc and DNSc from University of Alexandria, Egypt since 1998 to 2013.

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