"THE LINK BETWEEN ANOREXIA AND PSYCHOSIS - MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS?" Barbara Remberk

Anorexia nervosa course may be characterized by variable severity. In self-report epidemiologic studies subclinical symptoms are quite commonly reported. In clinically established diagnoses, the symptoms severity may vary from mild weight loss and preserved insight to life-threatening state, persistent symptomatic behavior, lack of insight and even death. Patient suffering from the serious form of the condition sometimes report hallucinatory experiences consistent with the eating disorders typical ideation. The expressed beliefs regarding the eating topics, weight gaining risk, general patient's physical state are often irrational and sometimes may be considered being a form of delusions. In this context, a psychosis continuum in anorexia concept has been proposed. This way of understanding anorexia may result in treatment choice and may have legal consequences. The experts' opinion regarding legal possibilities of involuntary treatment will be presented. Nevertheless, psychosis continuum hypothesis many questions remains unresolved.