Somatoform Pain Disorders: Fibromyalgia is a Mental or Somatic Disease?

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Abstract

Mental disorders with pain as a leading symptom are remnant diagnostic categories for physicians and psychotherapists, even if they are educated in pain treatment. Patients with somatoform pain disorder (ICD-10: F45.4) are often diagnosed only after several years and multiple diagnostic procedures, in some cases after iatrogenic impairment. The clinical practical features, diagnostic procedure and differential diagnosis in somatoform pain patients as well as current psychotherapeutic approaches are outlined.

Keywords: Pain Disorders, Somatic Disease, Fibromyalgia

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