

PSYCHOSIS RISK ASSESSMENT FOR ADOLESCENTS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

*Jelena Kostić^{1,2}, Olivera Žikić^{1,2}, Vladimir Djordjević^{1,2},
Sofija Stevanović¹*

The importance of Ultra High Risk (UHR) state for psychosis has been increasingly acknowledged to such an extent that Attenuated Psychosis Syndrome (APS) is being considered as a new diagnostic category in the DSM-5. The suggested criteria for attenuated psychosis syndrome presuppose the presence of at least one of three attenuated positive psychotic symptoms (disorganized speech, delusions and/or hallucinations) with a frequency of at least once weekly in the past month. These symptoms would exacerbate in the past year, cause disability, distress or help-seeking behavior, and could not be explained by another mental disorder.

The paper aimed to present the assessment of attenuated psychosis syndrome in a male adolescent aged 17 and its implications in diagnosis and management. Apart from clinical examination, the assessment was performed using the Comprehensive Assessment of At-Risk Mental States (CAARMS version 2006) and the Social and Occupational Functioning Assessment Scale (SOFAS).

Structured assessment of Attenuated Psychosis Syndrome, especially in adolescence, represents a delicate task for mental health professionals. It gives an opportunity to identify high-risk individuals for psychosis, provide early intervention targeting the present symptoms, reduce stress, improve functioning and at least delay the progression to the clinical picture of full-blown psychosis.

Acta Medica Medianae 2023;62(4):92-97.

Key words: *psychosis risk, adolescence, attenuated psychosis syndrome, assessment*