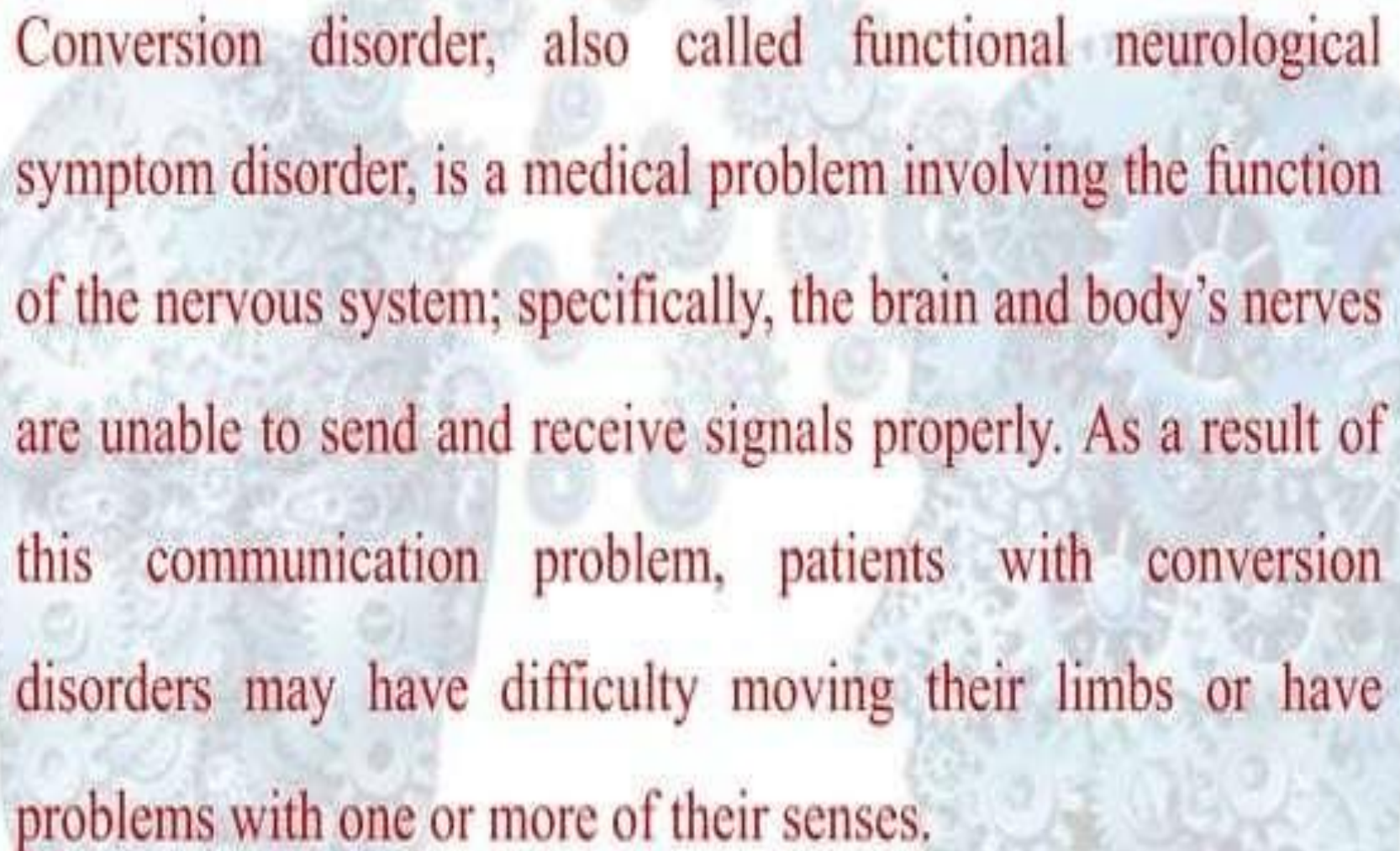


CONVERSION DISORDER



By
Sreetha Akhil
MSc Nsg
JMCON



Conversion disorder, also called functional neurological symptom disorder, is a medical problem involving the function of the nervous system; specifically, the brain and body's nerves are unable to send and receive signals properly. As a result of this communication problem, patients with conversion disorders may have difficulty moving their limbs or have problems with one or more of their senses.

CONVERSION DISORDER

- MEANING – Anxiety is converted into physical symptoms
- Previously it is known as Hysteria
- **Conversion disorder** - in which a person experiences blindness, paralysis, or other symptoms affecting the nervous system that cannot be explained solely by a physical illness or injury.

DEFINITION

- An illness of symptoms or deficits affecting voluntary motor or sensory functions, suggesting another medical condition, but judged due to psychological factors because of preceding conflicts or other stressors.
- Characterized by the presence of one or more neurological symptoms, unexplained by a known neurological or medical disorder



ETIOLOGY

- Genetic factor
- Biochemical factor
- Psychosocial factor
- Family dynamics



CLINICAL MANIFESTATION

Motor symptoms or deficits:

- Impaired coordination or balance
- Weakness/paralysis of a limb or the entire body
- Impairment or loss of speech
- Difficulty swallowing or a sensation of a lump in the throat
- Urinary retention
- Psychogenic non-epileptic seizures or convulsions
- Tremor
- Gait problems
- Fainting



Sensory symptoms

- Impaired vision
- Double vision
- Impaired hearing (deafness)
- Loss or disturbance of touch or pain sensation
- Numbness



DIAGNOSTIC MEASURES

- **Medical history and physical exam.**
- **CT and MRI scans.** These tests provide detail on possible head injuries, strokes, brain tumors and brain diseases that may be causing symptoms.
- **EEG.** This tests looks for evidence of seizures or other electrical changes in the brain.



Dsm-5 diagnostic criteria for conversion disorder

- One or more symptoms that affect body movement or your senses
- Symptoms can't be explained by a neurological or other medical condition or another mental health disorder
- Symptoms cause significant distress or problems in social, work or other areas, or they're significant enough that medical evaluation is recommended



MANAGEMENT

- Pharmacological management

Anxiolytics

Antidepressants



Non pharmacological management

- Psychotherapy
 - Cognitive behavioural therapy
 - Individual psychotherapy
 - Group therapy
- Hypnosis
- Trans cranial magnetic stimulation
- Rehabilitation therapy
- Relaxation therapy



Prognosis

There is reason for hope: most people who experience functional symptoms get better. Factors that are associated with a positive outcome include:

- Patient received a good explanation of the condition and accepted the treatment recommendations.
- Patient was diagnosed early.
- Patient had a good response to treatments.

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