CATATONIA REMAINS UNDER-DIAGNOSED BECAUSE OF ITS CLINICAL DIVERSITY

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Catatonia is a transnosographic and potentially fatal syndrome, most often associated with mood disorders or schizophrenia but can also develop in neurological conditions such as epilepsy, autoimmune encephalitis, as well as other medical conditions such as hypercalcemia, hepatic encephalopathy, or diabetic ketoacidosis.

We present a clinical case of a 26-year-old patient with a catatonic syndrome, whose neurological cause, a viral encephalopathy, was first evoked but after clinical investigations the diagnosis of schizophrenia was retained and currently the patient is stabilized on Clozapine.

The intertwining of neurological and psychiatric symptoms in catatonia often leads to a diagnostic impasse, knowing that without effective treatment, its morbi-mortality is important.