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DSM (5) and psychosis: the psychosis of DSM (5) ?

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Learning Goal:

On Belgian governmental level an expert committee group of the Higher Council of Health made an evaluation of the DSM (5) on epistemological, clinical and organisational level. The results and advices are presented and annotated - with emphasis on psychosis - by the speakers (members of the committee).

Abstract Text:

Since 2013 DSM (5) is the new edition of an influential psychiatric classification. Although it's only meant as a manual of classification, DSM Manual, it's largely used for diagnostic clarification, treatment guidelines, scientific research and educational purposes.

The Superior Health Council of Belgium advises the Belgian government. It has installed a multidisciplinary expert committee to report on the problematic side of the use the DSM (5) in mental health care and possible alternatives. The expert committee consists of psychiatrists, psychologists, philosophers, sociologists and an expert by experience. This evaluation at government level is to be presented for the first time in the international professional community. This symposium presents the research results and advices of the expert committee.

Marc Calmeyn brings an overview and evaluation of the three levels of evaluation of the DSM (5). The epistemological, clinical and organizational levels are explored. The topics of concern on each level are explained. In this way the advices proposed by the expert committee for patients and significant others, experts by experience, carers and other professionals, researchers and government influencers are presented.

Jim van Os will examine the diagnosis-evidence-based-practice-symptom-reduction model of mental health care, focusing on the wider effects of presenting mental suffering in the context of a medical framework and on whether it is possible to bring together user knowledge and professional knowledge in a collaborative framework.

Brenda Froyen will focus on the possible psychological impact on patients of the DSM, as it is used nowadays. Furthermore she will expose how the council's advice creates opportunities to rethink mental health.

This symposium ends with a question. Is the DSM Medical viewpoint a trustful guide for understanding psychopathology, especially psychosis, or is it a classification based on scientific psychosis?

**ON THE HEALING POWER
OF HUMAN RECONNECTION**