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**'Sometimes the Structure Around Us Fails.' Parents' Subjective Understandings of How Their Psychosis Affects Parenting**

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**Learning Goal:**

The results show a number of difficulties in parenting faced by patients with psychosis. We suggest that it is important for healthcare staff to build an alliance with the parent that includes communication about parenting and childcare at an early stage of treatment, before problems become acute.

**Abstract Text:**

Parental psychosis poses a risk factor for a child's well-being. Few studies have focused on the parents' views of how their psychosis affects their parenting, and results for parenting ability in this group are contradictory. The present study aimed to explore how parents with psychosis experience the effect(s) of their illness on parenting. In-depth and semi-structured interviews were conducted with 15 parents who attended service units specializing in psychosis. The transcripts were analyzed using thematic analysis. Data related to the research aim were analyzed deductively according to the protection, reciprocity, control, guided learning, and group participation model of parenting. Data in each domain were then coded inductively to form subthemes. Results show that all domains of parenting appear to be affected by psychosis. The parents specifically mentioned that depression, fatigue, and difficulty focusing because of hearing voices had negative impacts on their abilities to provide protection, reciprocity, and control. The parents also expressed difficulties in maintaining routines in the child's everyday life. Furthermore, the theme "Unpredictable absences" crosses all domains and highlights the parents' recurrent mental and physical absences from their children during psychotic episodes. In conclusion, parents with psychosis could benefit from interventions that aim to improve their mentalizing capacity in relation to their child. Some parents may also need support to maintain the daily structure of childcare during psychotic episodes.

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OF HUMAN RECONNECTION**