

## Dream experiences in patients who experienced the comatose state: a clinical-qualitative approach

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### Abstract

This study analyzed the dream content of patients who experience a comatose state at the Clinical Hospital of the Universidade Estadual de Campinas. The collection and data analysis were done by semi-structured interviews and from the perspective of psychoanalysis, respectively. Nine patients were interviewed and the content of dreams were divided into five thematic groups. The reports revealed desires represented in dreams and the peculiarities of the psychic functioning of these patients, especially the disturbing delusions like deliroides idea. This study concluded it is essential to improve a better management of psychiatric disorders, able to alter the clinical course of the patient.

*Dreams, coma, psychoanalysis*

### Introduction

The dream is important to the psychological recovery and to the fixing the affective memory character.<sup>1</sup>The Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) is used to assess the level of consciousness in patients with brain damage, coma is defined when a scale score less than eight. The induced coma consist in sedation of patient unstable to decrease the psychological and physical stress.

Dreams is closely related wish, can represent the dreamer's unconscious and reveals significant emotional conditions of the human being.<sup>2</sup>

### Results and Discussion

We interviewed nine patients who experienced coma at the Clinical Hospital of the Universidade Estadual de Campinas. The sample was closed by theoretical saturation. Data were collected through semi-structured interviews<sup>3</sup>. The results were analyzed from thematics groups and from the perspective of psychopathology and psychoanalysis.

The content of dreams were divided into five thematic groups: everyday life, re- experience the trauma, religiosity, the anxiety-dreams and the explicit realization of desires. Most dreams reflect the deepest desires of the individual. Despite occur Dream Development through forgetfulness, some patients are able to associate your dreams to your wishes. The anxiety-dreams in the immediate post -coma throw ideas on how to preparing the trauma and the pattern of development of PTSD in these patients.

The psychic operation was characterized by changes in perception of reality, of time and of space, with emphasis on the experience deliroides.

### Conclusions

Reported dream contents reveal the wishes of patients and suggest an immediate elaboration of the trauma, questioning the development of PTSD. The reports also reveal the peculiarities of psychic functioning of these patients, especially the disturbing deliroides ideas.

This study concluded that it is essential to improve the management of psychiatric disorders, able to alter the clinical course of the patient in the post -coma

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