S25-01 - THE ROLE OF VALUES IN THE PRODROMES OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

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The lifeworld of persons who will develop schizophrenia includes an axiological dimension next to a symptomatological one. Values are action-guiding attitudes that subject human activities to be worthy of praise or blame. The value system of prodromal schizophrenics, is argued, conveys an overall crisis of common sense. The outcome of this has been designated as antagonomia - the choice to take an eccentric stand in the face of commonly shared assumptions and the here and now other - and idionomia - the feeling of the radical uniqueness and exceptionality of one's being with respect to common sense and the other human beings. The implications of these persons' structure of values for understanding their world-view, maximizing therapeutic alliance, enhancing healing programs and reducing stigmatization will be discussed.