

## **Are you involved in any studies on catatonia? What studies would you like to see in the future?**

### **Dr. Gazdag:**

We are running three studies in catatonia in our center. First is targeting the relationship between catatonia and the autonomic nervous system. In this research, we examine heart rate variability of the patients and the correlation of these variables with catatonic symptoms. Our second research targets the speech analysis of patients with catatonia. In this research, we try to find verbal signs of specific patterns that can be used to identify patients with catatonia. And our third research is focusing on the subjective experience of patients during the catatonic state.

Regarding future research, probably the most important goals of future research are to formulate a generally accepted definition for catatonia and exactly define what the catatonic signs are. There is no consensus in this field in the scientific community.

Further research targets can be the confirmation of the efficacy of benzodiazepines in the treatment of catatonia in randomized controlled trials and defining the place of antipsychotics in the treatment of catatonia.