

How can we help psychiatrists feel more confident diagnosing the excited form of catatonia?

Dr. Carroll:

There is an article about excited catatonia that I sometimes give to residents and medical students. The other thing is, for me, it is looking at KANNER part three. KANNER part three corresponds to items 15 through 23 on the Bush-Francis Catatonia Rating Scale. There are more, they're more complicated, there's a greater definition. But the identifying combativeness as a catatonic sign becomes very important. Identifying waxy flexibility, identifying *mitgehen* and even *gegenhalten* in a patient with excited catatonia, while difficult, is necessary. Excited, catatonic patients are difficult to approach. And I recognize that it is harder overall to diagnose excited catatonia. So we're starting with one article in current psychiatry, but as the field advances, there will be more articles about the phenomenology of catatonia and of excited catatonia.