BODY AND IDENTITY IN VICTIMS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Patricia Espinosa Hernandez, MD
APM Mexican Psychiatric Association
México City, Mexico

Background: Victims of child sexual abuse live up to 15 years less than the rest of the population, as they suffer not only several mental diseases, but more frequently from uncommon chronic physical illnesses, such as autoimmune diseases, hypersensitivity disorders, neoplasms, etc.

Issues of focus: It has been suggested that these sequelae are the result of severe psychosomatization processes related to the negative impact that sexual violence has on the psycho-neuro-endocrinological-gastrointestinal system of the victims in childhood and adolescence and the mind the mental processes of embodiment.

Proposition: In this paper we will review the existing literature on the anatomical and functional alterations in the different body systems of victims of abuse and how they also affect their sense of embodiment an identity.

Results and implications: Prevention and early care for victims of child sexual abuse can avoid psychological, mental and physical sequelae that impact their sense of identity and therefore the possibility of having or not having a full life also mental, physical, emotional, and social.

Learning Objectives
At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:
1. Recognize the global impact on the growth and biopsychosocial development of adult victims of sexual abuse in childhood and adolescence.
2. Consider the need to develop prevention and early care protocols to avoid or contain the diversity of sequelae that occur in these patients.