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Diamond in the rough

Introduction: Most of the time clinicians tend to focus on the biological aspects of treatment. However, there is usually more than that meets the eye. At times cases of child abuse or neglect may be missed unless we look at root issues.

Case Report: A case of 12 year old girl with school refusal, poor academic performance, disruptive behaviour, and frequent tantrums and gullible was presented. Psychosocial issues identified include disorganized attachment, neglected childhood, incapable parents and provider, intellectual disability with poor socio-economic status and poor family support.

Discussion: Due to complex interactions between the symptoms elicited and the surrounding psychosocial issues, immediate interventions became warranted. Between a father who was incapable to look after her and her lower intellectual functioning, making her gullible and vulnerable to exploitation by others, further complicated by her behaviour of running away from home put her at imminent risk of various potential harm. Utilization of external multiagency services, hospital admission is decided based on clinical evaluation and impending risk of harm to self; psychosocial evaluation, identifying appropriate psychosocial intervention, liaising with the relevant agency to activate child protection service.

Conclusion: A holistic management plan encompasses a bio-psychosocial approach which should utilize numerous services including allied health professionals, social welfare services, educationist and police.

Biography

A Public Health Consultant, she has been leading Hospital Kuala Lumpur (HKL), the largest public Hospital in Asia since 2006. HKL has 1,200 beds with 11,300 employees. She has demonstrate continuous growth, achievements, and impressive leadership in the management of complex activities within the healthcare industry. As a leader, she has solid business insight with the ability to ascertain and analyze needs, forecast goals, streamline operations, and envision new program concepts. Her excellent communication and interpersonal skills serve as the foundation to effectively network, collaborate, negotiate, and maintain positive partnerships with physicians, staff, external vendors and other organizations. She's proficient in managing diverse range of departments, professionals, and programs through a complete understanding of the healthcare arena and integrated networks, adept at setting, expecting, and achieving high standards of quality. Actively involved in Research and Psychology is the subject of her passion.

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