

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

S u m m a r y

The paper presents evidence suggesting that most male schizophrenic patients display poorer premorbid functioning during the early stages of the illness. In men, schizophrenia onset is earlier than in women. Male patients more often display structural micro-abnormalities of the brain and organic deficits. Schizophrenia in male population is rather more

chronic and has poorer prognosis. Female patients are more often burdened with genetic factors. They express more often productive and affective symptomatology but they are more sensitive to neuroleptics. Moreover, the prognosis in their illness is more advantageous.