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Abstract

A Case of Mental Ill Health Caused by Job Stress after Job Reallocation

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Background: Recently, social concern about occupational stress and disputes, which are surrounded with judgements of work relatedness for various psychiatric sequels, is increasing.

Objective: We present a case of work-related, illness judgement in which panic disorder and adjustment disorder with conversion symptoms were associated with work stress due to job reallocation.

Methods: We performed psychiatric assessment including mental status examination and neuropsychological test batteries. We also assessed job stress profiles using the Korean version of the Occupational Stress Inventory (K-OSI).

Results: The patient showed no specific psychological or physical problems and had previously demonstrated suitable coping skills. However, the patient, who was sensitive to emotional stress, suffered chronic stress symptoms after a role change from a car mechanic to office manager which required continuous interaction with customers and a strong emotional burden. Panic attack and conversion symptoms were judged to be associated with disharmony between individual characteristics and environmental needs.

Conclusion: It is noteworthy that this is the first reported case considered as a psychiatric illness related with psychological work stress. A further study will be attempted to assign standards of judgment for similar cases through systematic source collection and tool development.

Key Words: Job stress, Panic disorder, Work relatedness

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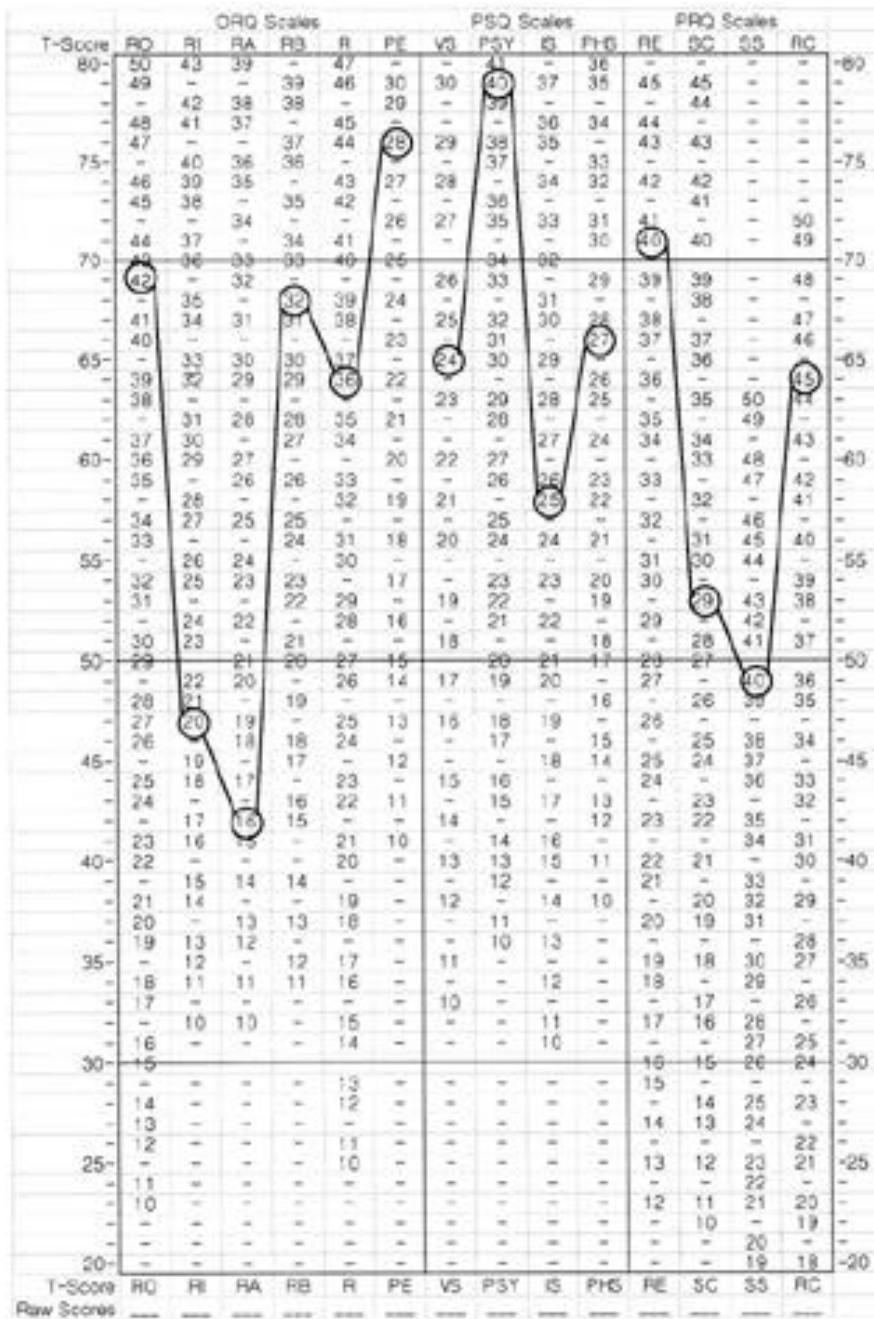


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