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**Tytuł:** Badanie homogeniczności neuronalnych, psychologicznych i behawioralnych czynników Kompulsywnych Zachowań Seksualnych

**Streszczenie w języku angielskim:**

The subject of this doctoral dissertation is Compulsive Sexual Behaviors Disorder (CSBD). In order to expand the scientific knowledge on CSBD, the assessment of the functioning of individuals with CSBD (n = 80) compared to the healthy control group (n = 70) was performed, as well as a study on the evaluation of the heterogeneity of the CSBD symptoms severity. Functional assessment was carried out in 3 empirical studies using a multi-faceted set of methods (i.e. structuralized clinical interview, set of questionnaires, battery of cognitive tasks and magnetic resonance imaging – method for assessing structures and functions of human's brain). This assessment concerned three hypothetical mechanisms related to the severity of CSBD symptoms: increased reactivity to appetitive cues of erotic stimuli (mechanism A), increased reactivity to fearful stimuli (mechanism B), and decreased cognitive control over impulsive behavior (mechanism C). The results from the series of studies provided scientific evidence supporting significant role of the mechanism A as a correlate of CSBS symptoms severity. It was noticed that in the group of CSBD patients there was a higher motivation to obtain erotic rewards and a higher level of hedonistic rates of these (erotic) rewards, increased arousal during the processing of words describing problematic activity, and also an interference of sexual stimuli in the learning process. Moreover, increased motivation to obtain erotic rewards was associated with increased neuronal activity in the ventral striatum, which is a part of the reward system

responsible for processing appetitive stimuli. In CSBD patients, there was also a decrease in gray matter volume in the anterior and posterior orbital-frontal cortex - areas related to the mechanism A. In case of mechanism B and C, the results were inconclusive. The last empirical part of the dissertation was an attempt to investigate whether CSBD is homogeneous in nature, i.e. whether the basis of the symptoms severity is similar in all patients, or is it a heterogeneous disorder? An unique methodological model for testing the validity of the hypothesis of homogeneity of CSBD mechanisms. The results did not provide a conclusive answer and did not allow for the creation of a clear and consistent CSBD typology, however, they allowed to obtain a new perspective on the studied problem. In the last part of the dissertation, the scientific significance of the obtained results and their potential impact on the development of the knowledge about CSBD are discussed.

**Słowa kluczowe:** Compulsive Sexual Behavior Disorder, problematic pornography use, hypersexuality, sexual addiction, heterogeneity of Compulsive Sexual Behavior Disorder