

Sala Riunioni 1 Dipartimento di Psicologia Generale via Venezia 8

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PTSD AMOMG CARDIAC PATIENTS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Relatore

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direttrice del Laboratorio di Psico-cardiologia

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Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a severe emotional reaction to a concrete stressor such as a manmade atrocity or a natural disaster. In recent years, much scientific attention has been devoted to exploring the possibility that illnesses or injuries might also be regarded as causes of PTSD. However, much fewer studies focused on PTSD of these origins. The current talk will focus on PTSD as a consequence of cardiac illness, among both patients and their spouses.

I will shed light on the state-of- the-art knowledge in this field, focusing specifically on evidence regarding to family members. Then I will present our lab retrospective, qualitative and prospective studies' results about cardiac induced PTSD in the family.

I hope this talk will broaden our understanding of the unique ramifications of PTSD resulting

from cardiac illness in the family. Ultimately, this kind of comprehensive understanding will be translated into effective interventions.

Dr. Noa Vilchinsky is a senior lecturer and the director of the Psycho-cardiology Research Lab, Department of Psychology, Bar Ilan University, Ramat- Gan, Israel. Her main fields of research are Psycho-cardiology; Attachment-related dynamics in health and illness; Dyadic coping with chronic illness; PTSD and chronic illness; Cultural differences in health behaviors; Attitudes toward people with disabilities; and the importance of being treated with respect and dignity in the medical setting.