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Sameness, immobility and omnipotent control in OCD and Autism

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A im of this contribution is to highlight the obsessional features observed in an autistic child whom I treated analytically with four weekly sessions for eighteen years, to relate them to the obsessional functioning in the family, particularly the mother, and to discuss the severe obsessive-compulsive disorder in my patient's younger brother, which became apparent in his late adolescence. This boy is treated analytically by a colleague whom I regularly see in supervision. I will mainly focus on the obsessional features, about language, and the issue of sameness in particular, and will consider the family and the brother as part of what I saw as a reticulum of modes of functioning that all the group members shared.

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