

## **Abstract**

In this work I deal with the question of whether the use of the concept of overdetermination is coherent across 1) psychoanalytic theoretical and case studies and 2) different psychoanalytic directions. Based on the analysis of the most cited case studies dealing with the topic of narcissism in the field of Kleinian and Relational psychoanalysis, I come to the conclusion that the use of the concept of overdetermination is not completely coherent in psychoanalysis. This incoherence may be due to the different attitudes of different authors to abstract metapsychological assumptions. Narcissism of small differences, which in my opinion is evident between representatives of different psychoanalytic directions, can also play a role. And last but not least, it is possible to look at this incoherence as the result of so-called implicit theories, i.e. not entirely official and conscious theories that psychoanalysts follow in the course of their practical clinical work.

## **Keywords**

Psychoanalytic discourse, overdetermination, analysis of psychotherapeutic case reports, the relationship between theory and practice

